

THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XXIV.—NEW SERIES, No. 971.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 1864.

PRICE { UNSTAMPED .. 5d.
STAMPED 6d.

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

THE OXFORD LIBERALS AND THE NONCONFORMISTS.

We find peculiar satisfaction in the fact that the Liberal party connected with Oxford University have not lost position in consequence of their manly determination to attach the same importance to the measure of advantage which they had claimed for Nonconformists in Mr. Dodson's Bill as to that which they had purposed for members of the Established Church. It will be borne in mind that the Bill, as it stands, was originated, framed, and introduced into Parliament by Oxford men without previous communication with any of the Dissenting bodies. It might easily have been so restricted in its scope as to propose a relaxation of tests in the case of Churchmen only. Its promoters might reasonably have counted upon an earlier and a more facile triumph, if they had resolved to apply their principle to those cases alone in which the conscience, the feelings, and the interests of their co-religionists were concerned. That they deliberately preferred to do justice as well as receive it, may be accepted as evidence that they are proceeding upon a larger principle than this Bill will cover. At any rate, the fact was taken as a spontaneous advance towards religious equality, the value of which was to be estimated, not so much by its extent, as by the quarter from which it came, the generosity with which it was made, and the importance of the ultimate question which it put at issue. The Dissenters saw this, and heartily responded. They did what they could to support a measure which, although it would have contributed but little to give them practical relief, indicated a disposition of friendliness towards them, and claimed for them a right which the Legislature had persistently refused to them.

The tone of the first debate led us to apprehend that the party which we had helped through a second reading of the Bill might yield to the insidious but powerful temptation held out to them to sacrifice their coadjutors by consenting to make a seat in Convocation dependent upon a previous declaration of Conformity. The Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Home Secretary urged Mr. Dodson to consent to this course in Committee on the Bill; and overtures were made from the Conservative side to allow it to pass, if words were inserted which would have the effect of excluding Nonconformists from the governing body. The bait was a flattering one. The Bill, in its altered shape, would have relieved the laity of the Church of England from a galling yoke, and, it may have been plausibly argued, would not leave Dissenters in a worse position than they were before. It would even have made a show of concession, by allowing them to go on to the M.A. degree, without subjecting them to the torture of a religious test. Precedent, too, was in favour of throwing Jonah overboard when the vessel laboured in a storm. We

are happy to say that the proposal was decisively rejected, and that the promoters of the measure elected rather to lose it for the Session, than to desert those whom they had associated with themselves in their demands upon the Legislature. It was under these circumstances that the second battle was fought and won on Wednesday last; and we congratulate both sections of the victorious party upon the issue.

We have no expectation, indeed, that the Bill will get through the Committee in its present shape. We dare not so delude ourselves. A majority of the House will, doubtless, foist into it the restrictive provision which the promoters and supporters of the measure have magnanimously resisted, and it will then be abandoned—or rather, the House of Commons will be appealed from to the constituencies. But it is a new feature of our experience, to be dealt with after an honourable fashion. Political parties have been ready enough to use us as tools, and, having got their ends with our aid, to forget that we have a claim upon them. The Whigs, especially, have lured us to their side again and again by the enunciation of a great principle, in the application of which they have consulted exclusively their own political interests, and the logical and consistent carrying out of which they never cared to insist upon after their own objects had been gained. The rising party at Oxford, having started generously, have showed a determination to move onward loyally. In fact, they value their principles more than immediate progress, and even to snatch a triumph for themselves will not be detached from those who have fought by their side. They have only to proceed as they have begun, and they will gather around them a confiding host, which they may hereafter lead to higher victories than any which may be gained by ignoble compromises. Good faith in politics, as in commerce, may have its disadvantages at first; but, in the long run, it becomes irresistible. We tender our cordial thanks to the Oxford Liberals for their firm adhesion to their original professions. We rejoice that, as yet, they have lost nothing by their manly consistency: and we believe that if they will but persevere in the spirit of which they have given so good an example, they will, the sooner rather than later, realise the patriotic objects they have at heart.

The debate on Wednesday last was even better than the division. We give a sketch of it below, drawn by "one who was present." We shall not detain our readers with any additional comments of our own. It will suffice that we point attention, in conclusion, to the gratifying fact that the Liberal sentiments expressed in the course of it have not been squeezed out of the honourable members who uttered them by any external pressure, and that they are the natural outcome of views and sympathies from the growth and expansion of which Nonconformists, as men who seek nothing but justice to all classes, irrespectively of their religious faith, have everything to hope as time advances.

THE SECOND ECCLESIASTICAL WEDNESDAY OF THE SESSION.

(BY ONE WHO WAS PRESENT.)

The cause of religious equality owes almost as much to obstinate foes as to steadfast friends. The promoters of the Bill for throwing open more widely the doors of Oxford University, by the abolition of useless and obnoxious tests, could have desired nothing better than such an attempt to arrest their progress as was made last Wednesday, after the opinion of the House of Commons had been fairly tested, and the principle of the Bill affirmed at the previous stage. The Opposition might have allowed the Bill to go into Committee, and have proposed amendments which would probably have been carried by a large majority. But they have preferred to act upon the policy of "in-

discriminate resistance," and have been beaten again upon their chosen ground.

By challenging a pitched battle, it may be presumed the Tories expected to win a victory. That issue was, indeed, feared on the other side. It was pretty generally known that the Young Oxford party had resolved to stand or fall by their Bill in its integrity. "We don't much object to the lay members of the University being relieved from superfluous tests," was the cry of the Opposition, "provided the governing body is kept free from the taint of Nonconformity. Maintain unimpaired the connection between the University and the Church—keep those obnoxious Dissenters like Gentiles in the outer court—and we will offer no serious opposition to your internal reforms." The insidious proposal was rejected. The Oxford reformers stood by their allies, and together they achieved a second triumph. Their opponents had an interval of ten weeks after the second reading of the Bill to organise their forces. They did, indeed, by persevering "whipping" bring up thirty-seven additional votes on Wednesday, but were nevertheless beaten by a majority of ten—thanks, to some extent, to the aid of the Irish Liberals who mustered more strongly than usual.

But the moral victory achieved last Wednesday was greater than the numerical triumph. "Many more such debates, and we are undone," might appropriately be the language of University monopolists. It sometimes happens that, in connection with such questions, the weight of debating power is on the Opposition side. But it was otherwise on this occasion. Their arguments had been exhausted on the second reading, and it was not easy to find a decent pretext for opposing the motion for going into committee or veiling the real object of the Conservatives—to crush the bill] by the sheer force of numbers. The jejune pleas of Mr. Trefusis, the Devonshire squire who led the Opposition, were scarcely strengthened by the voluble sophistry of Sir Stafford Northcote, who contended that the Universities ought not to be continually interfered with, and that, if such were the case, the Government ought to take the initiative. "You have proposed no amendments in order to make the Bill less objectionable," was his strong point, to which the sufficient reply was made, "Let us first go into committee, when the clauses can be considered." Nevertheless, the leading arguments of the Tory Opposition were quietly, patiently, and one by one replied to by the supporters of Mr. Dodson's measure. Mr. Leatham, in his epigrammatic speech, asked what Oxford University ninety-nine hundredths of whose members were Churchmen, could have to fear from the admission of a few Dissenters to Convocation, and dwelt upon the absurdity of allowing a bishop to remain in the Church who "disbelieved in Noah's ark, while a Nonconformist, who believed in Noah's ark, was kept out of the University because he did not believe in bishops." Mr. Morrison showed the wisdom of concession from the Churchman's point of view. Mr. Roebuck described the University tests as a cobweb which let through the large flies and caught the small ones. Gibbon and Hume would have swallowed the tests which were a snare only to the conscientious. Mr. Gushen said the real question was whether the Universities were clerical seminaries or seats of learning for the nation, and that the course pursued by the other side tended simply to denationalise the Universities. To Mr. Newdegate's novel argument that the test of *bond fide* Church membership would exclude Scotch Presbyterians, Mr. Bouverie was able to point to petitions presented in favour of the bill from the Universities of Glasgow and St. Andrews. Mr. C. Clifford was ready to show, from his own experience, the mischievous tendencies of subscriptions, and the necessity of taking a decided stand when a new test had been invented—the Oxford Declaration—which

would have excluded Paley himself. To Lord Robert Cecil's remark that because Dissenters were admitted, they *might* obtain a majority in the governing body of the University, Mr. Gûschen was ready with the reply that when that happened, the exclusive claims of the Church of England would cease, but so long as that Church maintained its supremacy over the minds and intellect of the people of England, so long there would be no danger in admitting Nonconformists into Convocation. These illustrations of the points of the debate will serve to show the preparedness of the promoters of the Bill to meet all objections, and their ability in exposing sophistical pleas. There was no vacillation in their defence of what is regarded in Parliament as the weaker and least acceptable element of the measure. Though they pleaded primarily for "the liberty of laymen," there was no tendency to ignore the claims of Nonconformists, nor to deny that the Bill involved a large principle, from the application of which, they did not shrink.

It was from the Treasury Bench alone that a voice in favour of compromise was heard. Sir George Grey, who leads the House on Wednesday when the Premier is absent, again urged that "to remove apprehension" the Bill should be so amended as to secure for the Church of England the exclusive government of the University—a suggestion which fell flat on the Ministerial benches, but elicited "Hear, hear" from the Opposition. As usual there was a Ministerial spoke to be put in the wheel to bring things to a dead lock.

One little episode illustrates the nature of the pressure brought to bear by the Church upon vacillating members. Mr. Moor, the new Conservative member for Brighton, had voted for the second reading of the Bill, but on Wednesday he announced that he could no longer repeat his vote. Though he had supported the principle of the Bill on the 16th of March, he could not vote for it when it was again challenged on the 1st of June, because, while ready to admit Dissenters to Oxford University, he objected to their forming part of its governing body. Had Mr. Moor proposed to move an amendment in that sense in committee, he would have preserved his consistency, but then he would have ignored the claims of party.

A more conspicuous incident was the rencontre between Mr. Neate, the Liberal member for Oxford city, and Lord Robert Cecil, the supposed aspirant to the leadership of the Conservatives. In the preceding week the noble lord had been down to Oxford to attend a banquet of the local Conservative Association, the real if not the avowed object of which newly-formed organisation is to oust Mr. Gladstone from the representation of the University, and put Lord Robert Cecil in his place. Mr. Neate, a very warm admirer of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, is naturally indignant at such a movement, and spoke so freely on the subject as to be assailed with cries of "Question"; so energetically, that he well-nigh lost his balance, and came to the ground. The hon. gentleman, though not a young man is an inexperienced member, but his adventure on Wednesday will have taught him the danger of indulging with one hand in vigorous action while the other is fettered by holding a hat. But at the prospect of a party encounter the House was all alive, and Mr. Neate attacked the Conservative orator amid hearty cheers from his own side of the House, which were redoubled when he spoke of the disgrace which would cover the University constituency if they discarded the member who had so long conferred honour on them. At the banquet in question, Lord Robert Cecil declared that a good Churchman was also a good Conservative, and Mr. Neate dared him to repeat the dictum in that House. Of course his lordship *did* repeat it, though with some qualification, amid the cheers of his friends, and in his impromptu reply, sarcastically alluded to the political epitaph which Mr. Neate had composed over the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in prospect of that dissolution which he evidently saw was, in more senses than one, impending. The noble lord did not neglect the opportunity of advertising the Conservative party as the only true friends of the Established Church, "the foremost of the institutions of the nation to support which they had bound together." "Codlin's the friend, not Short," insisted the strolling player, who for his own purposes patronised Little Nell. Of course this unpalatable doctrine was protested against by the Ministerialists, notably by Sir George Grey; who, after the genuine Whig formula, claimed that the best friends of the Church were those who were prepared to make concessions in a just and liberal spirit, in order to remove the practical grievances imposed on persons beyond the pale of the Church, without at the same

time impairing its stability and maintenance. The Church will no doubt be flattered by this rivalry to secure her good graces on the part of opposing statesmen, and is so little injured by either that she can afford to be impartial.

Impatient for a division, the House would scarcely allow Mr. Dodson the indulgence of the reply to which he was by usage entitled, and finally shouted him down. About an hour previously the Opposition, though beaten in debate, had reckoned upon a victory in the lobby, but Colonel Taylor had counted noses, and his information probably prevented Mr. Disraeli, and as the corollary, Mr. Gladstone, from addressing the House. When the paper was handed to Mr. Dodson, the Liberals cheered, though not with much enthusiasm, but the hon. member's declaration of the numbers was scarcely heard amid the buzz of eager conversation, though the less excited Speaker soon put the House in possession of the details. It was a victory, even though the fruits of it may not yet be gathered, with which Young Oxford has reason to be proud, and their Nonconformist allies to be gratified and grateful.

There will no doubt be a renewed, if not a decisive struggle when Mr. Dodson's Bill goes into committee on Wednesday, the 29th inst. Whether he will succeed in carrying through all the clauses—the question being regarded as an open one by the Government—remains to be seen.

ECCELESIASTICAL NOTES.

We are sorry to say that we know only one person in all our acquaintance, and the last letter we saw from him was dated from South America, who has visited Bunhill-fields. Whatever reverence the Nonconformists of England may entertain for the memory of the old heroes of their faith, it has not hitherto taken a very active expression. We need not now analyse the causes of this, although we may do so another day. It may be sufficient, at present, to state our belief that they can be accounted for without the fact involving any very serious reproach to us. But the fact is a fact, notwithstanding; and it is true of more than Bunhill-fields. How many amongst us have been to No. 19, York-street, and looked at the tablet which Jeremy Bentham placed on the front of the house, with the inscription, "Sacred to Milton, Prince of Poets"? How many of us have the enthusiasm of Hazlitt, which led him to live in that house for years, for the poet's sake? How many have taken a pilgrimage to Chalfont St. Giles's, to see the delicious old-fashioned cottage in which the last part of "Paradise Lost" was written, and the thought of "Paradise Regained" suggested? And so we might go through all our sacred places—Wyoliffe's Lutterworth, Hampden's House, Bunyan's Bedford, Cromwell's Huntingdon, Baxter's Oxendon-street. These are places almost unknown by sight, excepting to their immediate residents and to American travellers. The dead have "buried their dead," and we are somewhat coldly content.

Like all other neglect, this neglect has brought about its retribution, and in three or four years we may not be able to visit Bunhill-fields, however much we might wish to do so. Bunhill-fields will, in 1867, pass into the hands of—the Ecclesiastical Commissioners! What a fate for the resting-places of Cromwell's son-in-law, Fleetwood; of John Bunyan; of the leaders of the Two Thousand, such as Goodwin and Owen; of Vavasour Powell, and William Kiffin, of Daniel Defoe, of Isaac Watts, and John Rippon. Not a worse or a lower indignity could such remains be subjected to. The ecclesiastical descendants of the men who disinterred the bodies of Cromwell and his mother and hung them up at Tyburn, will now have possession of all that belongs to the greatest descendants of the Puritan Protector: not their bodies, not even their ashes, but their last home, and that is not a little.

Can such a catastrophe be prevented? We believe that a committee has been formed in London to consider the matter. We know nothing of its proceedings, but we imagine that a pamphlet which has reached our hands, entitled "Bunhill-fields Burial-ground," may possibly be issued by it. This pamphlet gives a clear and useful summary of the history of Bunhill-fields, from which it appears that it is at present held by the Corporation of London, on a lease which determines in 1867. The Act of Parliament known as the Finsbury Estates Act, authorising this lease, or rather a side note to it, states that this was to be "renewable every fourteen years," which means, we imagine, amongst other things, that a fine for renewal was to be payable at such

periods,—an ordinary condition in holding Church property. The Corporation of London, however, have never taken steps to "renew," so that while "distinct proof is afforded that both parties intended that the lease of 1768 should be renewable for ever, it is attributable solely to the *laches* of the Corporation that the lease cannot now be renewed." We should modify this statement, and say that it is attributable to the *laches* of the Corporation, and of the representatives of the Nonconformist bodies, particularly of the Committee, in times past, of the Dissenting Deputies, who assumed, but for many years only assumed, to protect the rights and privileges of Nonconformists. Especially should odium rest upon them, for many of their old committee-men are buried in the fields. The Corporation had never more than a money interest in this ground, and that interest ceased some years ago. Why should we expect them to look after our interests when we have ourselves been utterly negligent of them? Why should we expect them to be more anxious to preserve a Nonconformist burial-ground than the Nonconformists? It is we who, for our fathers, must accept the blame, and with it all its disgrace.

But the question recurs, can nothing be done to prevent this disgrace? We have not heard of any plans, and no practical steps are suggested in the pamphlet from which we have quoted. It strikes us that any scheme to buy the ground, excepting it can be obtained for a comparatively nominal price, will be a failure. Bunhill-fields occupies four acres, and those four acres are within the bounds of the City. The market value of such a spot must be enormous—probably far more than was contributed for chapel-building and other purposes in the year 1862. On the other hand, there is evidence that it was considered, being a burial-ground, and a consecrated one too, of no money worth, and we have little doubt that it could be shown that the appropriation of the site has never been reckoned in calculating the value of those "Finsbury Prebends," which are to revert to the hands of the Church in 1867. These "Prebends" are worth 60,000*l.* per annum, and it has for many years been assumed to be the intention of the Legislature to deal especially with them when they are about to come under the control of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. They are now all held under the same Act of Parliament as Bunhill-fields, and Bunhill-fields will, no doubt, be specifically dealt with, as it must be, in any Bill which may then be brought forward. We imagine, therefore, that our appeal must be not to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. A body which stinks in the nostrils of the Church is not likely to treat Dissenters with even bare courtesy. We shall consult our interests as well as our self-respect by having no communication with it. But we have, we think, a fair ground of appeal to the Legislature, and to the Legislature it will be wisest to go. The worst thing that it can do will be to point to the condition of some of the tombs in Bunhill-fields,—a condition at present disgraceful, if we profess to feel at all about the matter, and an effectual answer to any protestation that we have ever revered, as we ought, this hallowed spot. We have treated it hitherto as a field of the dead and the forgotten. The Jews esteemed their Golgotha as the house of the real living. "The Egyptians," says Diodorus, "call the houses of the living *inns*, because they stay in them but a little while; but the sepulchres of the dead they call everlasting habitations, because they abide in the grave to infinite generations." The Saxons called the churchyard "God's acre." The Danes, in one of Canute's laws, describe it as a place "to lie down in." We have esteemed it a place to be forgotten. If we suffer for this in feeling as well as in reputation, we must suffer; but we hope that those who are watching this matter may be able to take such steps as may prevent more than that apprehension which now, and not a little, pains some who hold the dead in the memory of the heart as well as of the brain.

We have pleasure in noticing an Archdiaconal Charge in which there is no rabid abuse of Dissenters. Archdeacon Bickersteth met his clergy and churchwardens on Wednesday last at Aylesbury, and addressed them on several important Church topics. Amongst these were education, Church discipline, and "Essays and Reviews." The Archdeacon supports the Committee of Privy Council in their intention to take the amount of endowments into consideration in making their annual grants to schools. If any doubts that this should not be done, he should read the return procured by Mr. Walter. On the other hand, the Archdeacon opposes the endeavour to "force conscience clauses on the promoters of Church schools." He says that if these clauses are to be introduced and stereotyped in trust-deeds, "then the Dissenter could at once

demand admission to our parochial schools for his children, and not only so, but demand that the religious teaching of the school shall be altered." "The next step," he says, "would be the admission of Dissenters as school managers." The pressure on this subject, he adds—and we are glad to hear it,—is becoming stronger and stronger, and unless their hands are strengthened, they will be beaten down. Is it possible that the Archdeacon does not know that we demand admission only to those schools that are supported with our money—by taxes taken from us as well as from Churchmen? Churchmen may make other schools as narrow as they like. Dr. Bickersteth is not very much disheartened at the "Essays and Reviews," but he is very earnest in supporting the demand for an amendment of the Church Discipline Acts, so that questions affecting the temporalities of the Church only may be tried by the Privy Council Committee, and questions of doctrine by the "provincial synods," or, in other words, by the Houses of Convocation. Would he reform Convocation for this purpose by admitting laymen? His opinion is that this would be "a fatal step towards the separation of the Church from the State"—an ominous sign of the distrust with which the clergy regard the laity. Regarding the proposal for giving absolute power to a clerical court, we cannot do better than quote the current number of the *Liberator*:—"All High-Churchmen agree, that the fault has been in the court by which modern heretics have hitherto been tried. There is, therefore, a demand for all such men to be tried in future by clerics—of course, Episcopal clerics. There is, no doubt, to be an agitation for another Court of Appeal; not to declare the law, but to convict heretics, whether for or against the law. The legality of the recent decision is not questioned; but it does not agree with the passions of Churchmen, and it has brought the Church into discredit. There is, therefore, we gather, to be an agitation for trial by bishops, instead of trial by lawyers and statesmen. We know what used to be the results of such courts; but, if Churchmen should be satisfied with them, we have no right to complain."

There are signs that Sir Roundell Palmer's Bill is to be abandoned. Nobody likes it. The *Record*, while "fully prepared to fight the Church-rate question with unflinching determination," condemns the measure as the result of "a temporising course"; and the *Guardian* opines that a long and complicated Bill, which has not reached its second reading in the House of Commons at the beginning of June, has little chance of becoming law before the close of the session. The *Guardian* scorns the justice of the demands of Dissenters, but does so by entirely ignoring in its statement the pledges made to Parliament. It treats with far less scorn the opposition which this Bill has received from the Church reformers, who protest against any legalisation of pew-rents in parish churches. There is no chance of their success at present, and so both Churchmen and Dissenters are advised to confine their criticisms to matters of detail, which is what we have been doing, and we hope with success.

The attempt of some sanguine Tories of the old school to link the Church to their political fortunes, of which some recent illustrations have been given at Maidstone and Oxford, is not meeting with all that encouragement which its authors may have expected. The *Guardian*, in an astute and cautious article, deals with the whole question. The gist of this paper may be expressed as follows:—We have not much objection to the Tory party and the Church party being identified, and making common cause against a common enemy, but how are we to be assured that the Tory party is destined to succeed? And if, after such an alliance, the Tory party should not succeed, what is to become of the Church? "If," says our High-Church mentor, "Churchmen thus go over bodily to the Conservative party, if the Church is to be ostentatiously and exclusively paraded as won over to the Conservative cause, it must be prepared to share the fortunes of the party; it must take its chance in the future with that political interest with which, not without the warnings of experience, both at home and abroad, it has deliberately renewed an alliance which a few years ago it broke from as from a bondage." The *Guardian*, we are afraid, is too late. It has itself been a persistent supporter of the ecclesiastical policy of the Tories. It has done more than most journals to amalgamate the two parties. If it has seen the mischief which is likely to ensue, it sees what all Dissenters have seen for many years. Political and ecclesiastical Toryism will fall together. We have not made the election, but Churchmen having made it, we shall be content to wait what we know will be the ultimate issue of the alliance.

CHURCH-RATES IN THE PARISHES.

CROYDON.—The *Guardian* states that a vestry-meeting was held at Croydon (a parish which contains nearly 35,000 inhabitants) on Tuesday, the 24th ult., for the purpose of making a Church-rate, to embrace in its application the parish church and six district churches, when a rate of 2½d. in the pound was unanimously granted. Our contemporary does not add that the rate is now practically a voluntary one. It will be found on examination that many of these "unanimously-granted" rates are of the same character.

EXCESSIVE CHURCH-RATE DISTRAINT.—Dr. Ellis, late of Sudbrook-park, has published an address to the inhabitants of Petersham, Surrey, in which he describes the annoyance to which he has been exposed by the mode of enforcing Church-rates in that parish. When summoned before the magistrates, he formally objected to the validity of the rate, on various grounds, but an order to pay was nevertheless made. A bailiff was then put in his house, and stayed there, notwithstanding the illness of his wife, for six days, as though he "were a common debtor endeavouring to escape a just demand." The rate and costs amounted to 8l. 4s.; to recover which there were seized and sold a fender and fire-irons, three tables, a couch, ottoman, easy chair, and a set of chairs, looking-glass, lustres, goblets, engravings, oil paintings, chimney ornaments, and other articles—the whole being of considerable value, and some of them of special value in the eye of Dr. Ellis, as being prized presents in acknowledgment of his services as a physician. At the sale the goods produced 16l. 13s., which, after payment of all costs, left a balance of 6l. 6s. 9d. to be returned. "Many of you," says the doctor, "I daresay, need not be informed that this seizure was illegal because it was excessive, and that certain of the charges cannot be sustained, as I shall hope to prove at a proper place. But I ask you, apart from this, whether you can justify such a step as this for the support of the religion which Jesus Christ came to teach and to preach? Is such a seizure in harmony with His character? Would He, do you suppose, have sanctioned it? Would He have called in the aid of the policeman, and established a broker in a Christian's house for the support of His religion? Would He not rather have said that a system so supported could not be His religion in any sense?"

SOUTH CREAKE, NORFOLK.—At a recent vestry meeting in this parish a rate was rejected by a majority of eleven votes. A poll took place with the following result:—Against the rate, 50 votes, 34 persons; for the rate, 39 votes, 12 persons. The contest passed off, for the most part, in an amicable manner, though, as there had been no Church-rate contest in the village for the last nine years, it created a lively interest in the neighbourhood generally.

SUNDERLAND.—Another important Church-rate contest was inaugurated on Saturday before the County Justices sitting in Petty Sessions at Sunderland, a number of ratepayers of the parish from which the borough derives its name resisting the enforcement of a Church-rate levied by the vestry under the special Act of Parliament passed in 1819, by which Sunderland was constituted a parish separate from Bishopwearmouth. For some time the leading Dissenters in the parish have doubted the power of this Act, and at length they have united to resist the distraint which was annually made on their stock-in-trade, in consequence of their refusal to pay the rate. The opponents of the rate have secured the services of Mr. Robert Brown, the able lawyer who succeeded in defeating the Bishopwearmouth Church-rate—a success which has served to embolden the Church-rate opponents in the sister parish. Mr. Brown objected that the Sunderland local Act was suspended by the general Acts of a later date, which direct the mode in which Church-rates are to be enforced, and which prescribe first an appearance before the local justices, and then, on the validity of the rates being disputed, transfer the jurisdiction to the Ecclesiastical Courts in the ordinary way. The Bench, however, decided to make an order on the defendants under the local Act, but as this decision will be appealed against in the superior courts, the churchwardens may prepare themselves for a long and expensive legal contest. Sunderland is now the only parish in the borough which collects a Church-rate, and hitherto the vestry have been accustomed to regard the authority of their local Act as unquestionable.

BUNHILL-FIELDS BURIAL-GROUND.

The following is a copy of a memorial about to be presented to the Common Council in reference to the threatened desecration of Bunhill-fields Burial-ground:—

To the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the City of London, in Common Council assembled.

The humble memorial of the undersigned Sheweth,

Your memorialists having a deep personal interest in securing Bunhill-fields Burial-ground from disturbance and desecration, crave permission to make a representation to your honourable court upon that subject.

They are informed that the leases under which the Corporation of London have held the Finsbury Prebendal Estate for more than 300 years, will finally run out at Christmas, 1867, and that the estate will then pass into the hands of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners.

Of this estate the Bunhill-fields Burial-ground forms a part, and your memorialists pray your honourable court to make such arrangements before the expiry of the lease, as may prevent the perversion of that ground to common uses.

This ground was set apart as a place of interment by the Corporation of London 200 years ago, and it was inclosed at the cost of the City in the mayoralty of Sir John Lawrence Knight, A.D., 1665, as an inscription over one of the entrances still records, during the 190 years that the ground continued to be used as a burial place—that is until the year 1852, when it was closed by order of council—more than 120,000 corpses were interred in it, enlargements having been made from time to time by the direction of the Court of Common Council.

Until the year 1781 the ground appears to have been managed by various persons to whom the Corporation granted leases of the same, but from that time forward it remained under the immediate direction of the Council, who appointed a keeper and received the fees. These for many years yielded no inconsiderable income, and even so late as the year 1830 it would seem that the gross amount of fees exceeded 600l. per annum.

In this burying-ground are interred men whose memory and writings are among the most precious of our national heirlooms; some of the most fearless asserters of civil and religious liberty at critical periods of our history; notable men of all professions and of all religious communities, divines, artists, reformers; a crowd of worthies and confessors whose learning, piety, and public services not only adorned the age in which they lived, but have proved a permanent blessing to the land, and whose names the world will not willingly let die. The Nonconformist bodies especially look upon this as the holy field of their illustrious dead, because here lie buried those whose remains were refused interment in the graveyards of the churches in which they had long faithfully ministered, and whose memory is reverently cherished in the hearts and homes of their religious descendants.

Any disturbance of a spot so hallowed could not but be resented as an injury to the nation, an insult to posterity, and a personal offence to many thousands of our fellow-countrymen.

Bar your memorialists would respectfully urge upon your honourable court that there are special reasons, apart from public considerations, which should induce you to accede to their request.

The numerous individuals who have bought graves and family vaults in this ground did so under the impression that they were securing a perpetual and irremovable place of sepulture. Not only was the lease under which the Corporation held this ground a very long one, but there can be little doubt that the predecessors of your honourable court regarded it as practically renewable for ever. If your memorialists are rightly informed, the records of the Corporation will yield abundant proof that this was the purpose of the Council when the last lease was negotiated. The Corporation, evidently under the impression that it could never be alienated, have at various times and especially in the year 1787 given assurance that the ground should not be built over, and in order to allay apprehensions which had arisen that it might be perverted to other uses, they declared by public advertisement that every part of it should "at all times hereafter" remain a burial-ground, and be used for that purpose only. Upon the faith of these engagements numbers have been induced to prefer this ground and to purchase vaults in it—nor in this an obligation which can be held in any respect discharged by the lapse of time, for some among your present memorialists have within years of this present date purchased family vaults at an expense of 50l. and upwards—there they have deposited the remains of beloved relatives, supposing they had secured for them a permanent resting-place with which no rude hands would ever be allowed to meddle, and though now that the ground has been closed they must forego the hope which they had cherished of lying down in their last sleep side by side with their fathers, yet they feel that they have a right to appeal to the Corporation from whom they bought these graves, to take care that they are not obliterated, covered or disturbed.

Your memorialists respectfully request that you will be pleased to cause enquiry to be instituted into the circumstances under which Bunhill-fields Burial-ground has been opened and used, and if they shall prove to be such as your memorialists believe them to be, they cannot doubt that you will be of opinion that the honour of the Corporation is engaged to take whatever steps may be necessary to secure the ground for ever against any possible perversion to other uses than those to which for two centuries it has been sacredly appropriated.

And your memorialists will ever pray.

J. R. Mills, M.P.	Henry Spicer.
Samuel Morley.	W. R. Spicer.
George Hadfield.	William Edwards.
F. Crossley, Bart., M.P.	D. Walters.
S. M. Peto, Bart., M.P.	E. B. Underhill, D.D.
Edward Baines, M.P.	Thomas M. Challis.
Thomas Barnes, M.P.	William H. Watson.
James Holywood.	Walter C. Venning.
Travers Buxton.	John Glover.
H. M. Matheson.	J. Hobson.
T. Binney.	John Michael Morris.
Edward Wilson.	Edward Edwards.
S. Smith Travers.	John Morley.
H. Jobson, D.D.	Joseph Ivimey.
Richard Martineau.	James Esdaile.
Roger Cunliffe.	Thomas Spalding.
George Unwin.	R. J. Kitchener.
William M'Arthur.	John Proctor.
James Duncan.	James Carter.
E. Smith.	Joseph Chamberlain.
Thomas Price, LL.D.	William Cooke.
Joseph Trueman.	Thomas P. Warren.
Thomas Scrutton.	Alfred Preston.
W. Flexman Fowler.	Peter Carthew.
John Towgood.	Edward Herne.
P. C. Leckie.	W. B. Bourn.
J. Sewell.	C. Edward Mudie.
James Risdon Bennett.	

THE CHURCH-BUILDING ACT CONSOLIDATION BILL.—This bill, the second reading of which has been several times postponed, is down for to-morrow night, when there is every reason to believe it will come on, and that the Government will state the course which they propose to pursue in respect to it.

A SUCCESSOR OF THE APOSTLES.—The personality of the late Bishop of Peterborough has been sworn

under 80,000*l*. The real estate is also very valuable. The deceased left no bequest to servants or charities.

The *Daily News* states that Brother Bernard (one of the "Ignatius Benedictines") has joined the Church of Rome.

Professor Jowett is to preach the sermon at St. Botolph, Bishopsgate, next Sunday morning, when there will be a collection for the Sunday and evening schools.

AN IRISH PRIEST ON GARIBALDI.—A Roman Catholic priest has addressed to a Dublin journal a letter in which he styles Garibaldi "the fanatical freebooter of Capra, the representative of treason, treachery, rapine, sacrilege, assassination, perjury, revolution, and rebellion."

BISHOP COLENSO.—The time allowed for retraction having expired, the Bishop of Capetown has caused to be served upon Dr. Colenso the sentence of deposition given under the seal of the Metropolitan at Capetown some months since. As Dr. Colenso disputes the right of Dr. Gray to depose him, the case will no doubt be brought before the Privy Council in due course.

CHRISTIAN TOLERANCE.—There is a large class of earnest Christians who, by the constitution of their minds, are exempt from doubts and questionings that shake to their very centre, spirits cast in a different mould. Let none, however, despise the mental conflicts of others. On the recognition of the infinite variety of mind around us depends not a little of the Christian's tolerance of opposing sentiment: it helps him to exercise the grace of charity. —*The Friend*.

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND AND WESLEYAN MINISTERS.—A Wesleyan minister sends a copy of the following printed circular to the *Watchman*. He says it has been sent to him:—"Any Wesleyan minister wishing to become a clergyman of the Church of England can be admitted to St. Aidan's College, without the preparatory examination, and on advantageous terms, the particulars of which may be known by application to the principal.—St. Aidan's College, Birkenhead, May, 1864."

THE OXFORD DECLARATION.—The committee held their final meeting at the Ven. Archdeacon Clarke's, Christ Church, Oxford, on Monday week. There were present the Archdeacon in the chair, the Revs. the Provost of Worcester, Warden of All Souls', Archdeacon Denison, Revs. Dr. Pusey, Miller, and W. R. Fremantle. The revised list of adhesions will show, it is supposed, 11,200 signatures. Arrangements were made for the presentation of copies to the archbishops, and for forwarding copies to the bishops of the United Church of England and Ireland, and to the colonial, American, and Scotch bishops.—*Record*.

THE IRISH CHURCH.—We are glad to see that the Irish petitions for the disestablishment of the Church continued to flow in; 85,868 signatures being the latest number reported. Mr. W. J. O'N. Daunt, who has persistently laboured to promote a national movement on the subject, in a letter to the *Cork Examiner* combats the objection which some Irishmen entertain to any approach as petitioners to the English Parliament. Among other pleas he urges this:—"Moreover, it is too bad to leave our cause to be solely supported by the English Volunteers. They are ready and able to give us efficient assistance—provided that we help ourselves. But of course our inaction will paralyse their energies. . . . I hope that the friends of the Voluntary system will not allow their very natural distrust of the English Legislature to prevent them from signing the petitions. Let them remember, too, that they will have sturdy allies on the English side of the Channel. Our cause commands the warm sympathy of millions of Englishmen, who have frequently proffered us their aid in trying to obtain for us, from their reluctant Parliament, relief from one of the worst evils that ever afflicted a nation. Finally, every Voluntary who refuses, or neglects, to sign the petitions for disendowment, plays the game of the enemy by his inaction." It is this movement, no doubt, which makes the friends of the Establishment so uneasy—and not without reason.—*Liberator*.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CONFERENCE.—This conference assembled at York on Wednesday morning. The opening sermon was preached on the previous evening by the Rev. W. Harland, of Gainsborough. The conference assembled for business in the Lecture-hall, Goodram-gate, where the deliberation of the ministers and delegates will not close till this week. The morning session of Wednesday was occupied chiefly in receiving the credentials of the various members and in appointing officers for the transaction of the business. The Rev. James Garner, of London, was elected president of the conference, and the Rev. W. Harland, principal secretary. The Rev. S. Antoliff and the Rev. Thomas Penrose, were appointed readers. The Rev. Robert Smith and others were appointed assistant secretaries. In the afternoon the statistics of the various districts were received, when it was found that the total number of members in connection with the conference was 148,690, the increase for the past year being only 2,109. The number of deaths for the past year was 2,090, being 99 more than the deaths in the previous year. The number of ministers was 841, being an increase of 11 for the year. Number of local preachers, 13,176, being 393 increase on the number of the previous year. Number of Sabbath-schools, 2,705, increase for the year, 255; Sabbath-schoolers, 208,399, increase for the year, 5,768; Sabbath-school teachers, 38,404, being an increase of 7,794 for the year. It appears that the connexion has 2,745 chapels, besides 3,427 other places in which

it preaches regularly. The increase of chapels for the year was 145. The circuits in general were reported to be in a healthy and prosperous state. At the meeting on Friday it was resolved to send a deputation to the Australian missions. In the afternoon the conference was occupied with reports from the committees appointed in the different districts. From those reports it appeared that the position of the schools, chapels, and other things had improved much during the year; but it was thought that at least five percent. per annum reduction of debts should be made. It seems that the question of a college for young ministers is likely to be thoroughly discussed this year. In the evening the conference temperance meeting was held in the lecture-hall.

THE PROGRESS OF INDEPENDENCY IN LEEDS.—A correspondent in "Our Churches," writing on this subject says:—"Let us compare the accommodation supplied by the Independents in Leeds at the present time with that forty years ago. I have given the proximate numbers.

White Chapel contained	400 sittings.
Salem " "	800 "
Albion " "	400 "
George's-street " "	250 "

1,850

Since 1824, there have been opened—

Queen-street Chapel	1,200
Belgrave " "	1,400
East-parade " "	1,750
Salem " "	1,000
Marshall-street " "	600

5,950

It may be worth while observing, that in the building of the four new chapels, and the enlargement of Salem Chapel, it is estimated that there has not been less than 42,000*l*. expended. A chapel was also opened at Hunslet, and was occupied for several years, but afterwards it was deemed undesirable to support it. The number of sittings provided by the Independents during the above period has thus increased threefold, whilst the population has little more than doubled.

The townships of Leeds and Holbeck contained
In 1831 55,754
In 1861 117,167
Nor should the greatly enlarged accommodation provided for the teaching of children in Sunday-schools during the same period be overlooked. It has increased in a yet greater proportion. It is in no spirit of boasting that I mention these facts relating to the progress of Independency in our town, but in justice both to the dead and the living who bore the heat and burden of the period when these chapels were built. Let the present generation of Independents do as much during the next quarter of a century as the founders of these chapels have done, and the reproach which your correspondent thinks attaches to Independency will be wiped away."

RELIGIOUS CENSUS OF PRISONS.—In the prisons of Scotland there were, on New Year's-day, 2,429 prisoners, of whom 998 described themselves as belonging to the Church of Scotland, 300 to the Free Church, 598 to the Roman Catholic, 217 to the Episcopalian, 126 to the United Presbyterian, 34 to other denominations, and 156 (five-sixths of them in Edinburgh) of no religious denomination. In Edinburgh one prisoner in every three is described by this last phrase; but in the prisons generally every prisoner (or almost every one) is set down as of some religion or other. There are 63 paid chaplains, or other religious teachers, visiting the prisons of Scotland; most of these belong to the National Church. In Perth the Government paid a Roman Catholic priest 70*l*. for his year's visitation of the Roman Catholic convicts there, 188 in number, at the date of this return. There were as many Roman Catholic prisoners in Glasgow jail, but no visiting priest appointed; but within the last three months eight of these Roman Catholic prisoners had requested the attendance of a priest, or had been visited by one. In Ireland there were on New Year's-day 3,003 prisoners; 2,513 were Roman Catholics, 364 are described as belonging to the Established Church, 122 as Presbyterians, three were Quakers, and one a Methodist. For them there were 92 religious instructors, paid out of the county rates—39 Roman Catholics, 39 belonging to the Established Church, and 14 Presbyterians. There were also in Ireland 1,767 persons in convict prisons; 1,497 of them were Roman Catholics, 220 belonging to the Established Church, and 50 Presbyterians. For these the Government provided 16 chaplains—seven Roman Catholic, five Episcopalian, and four Presbyterian; and there were also eight ladies voluntarily visiting Mountjoy female prison—two Roman Catholics, one Presbyterian, and five members of the Established Church.

THE REV. GEORGE GILFILLAN ON CALVIN.—In the course of a sermon on Sunday afternoon, in his own church at Dundee, on his words—"Call no man father on the earth," Mr. George Gilfillan alluded to the influence of Reformers. These had been, in his judgment, the most ill-used of all men, inasmuch as during their lifetime their bodies narrowly escaped feeding the flames, and after death their fame had been nearly suffocated with rancid incense. John Calvin had been the hero of the past week, but it was rather ominous that his admirers had selected for the anniversary not the date of his birth, July 10, 1509, but the date of his death, the 27th of May, 1564. Calvin no doubt, was a great man, and there was a great amount of truth in his system. But Calvin was not only not Christ, but he had less of Christ about him than almost any Christian divine he could name. He was harsh, narrow, dogmatic, cold, cruel. The system of polity established

while he lived in Geneva was worse than that which prevailed in Naples under Bomba. It was a system of brutal cruelty. One James Gruet, for writing some loose verses, was beheaded. Even little boys and girls were liable to capital punishment for trivial offences. And need he name Servetus—a name which, despite the one-sided sophistry of Calvin's defenders, rested like a bloody blot on that Reformer's brow? He ventured to make an assertion—it might seem strange now, but there was a day coming when it would appear a mere truism—that Shakespeare, whose tercentenary had been recently celebrated, was a better representative of the Christian religion than Calvin. The one was a monk in reality though not in name; the other was a man in the broadest sense of term. The one was a Jew of the stoniest type; the other a Christian of the noblest grain. The one found evil in things good; the other a soul of goodness in things evil. The one wrote Institutes of Theology in elegant Latin, which were read only by scholars; the other, dramas in plain English, which were read by the civilised world, and would be read after Calvinism was, to say the least, no longer, as now, absurdly identified by many with Christianity. He spoke then of creeds, and expressed his delight that Dr. Candlish had broken ground on that question by asserting that there were statements in the Confession of Faith opposed at once to science and Scripture.—*Dundee Advertiser*.

Religious Intelligence.

PURE LITERATURE SOCIETY.—The annual *conversazione* of this valuable auxiliary in the work of popular education took place at Willis's Rooms, St. James's, on Thursday evening, and was very numerously attended. The Earl of Shaftesbury, K.G., occupied the chair. The periodicals, pictures, &c., recommended or published by the society were exhibited round and across the room, and a list of 1,000 libraries granted at half-price during the last eight years, at a cost of 8,569*l*., was distributed to the visitors. About one-fourth of this sum has been paid by C. Buxton, Esq., M.P. The large room was tastefully arranged with specimens of the literature, the circulation of which is the aim of the institution. The principal periodicals were displayed on a line stretching across the room. The walls were hung with maps, plain and coloured prints, handbills, placards, and so forth. Tables, placed in different parts of the room, contained assortments of the smaller publications in great variety. Among the more prominent objects were the Scripture prints of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge and the Religious Tract Society; the varied issues from the press of Messrs. Cassell, the well-known illustrations of the *British Workman*, tracts and other useful publications of Mr. J. F. Shaw, and of the Ladies' Sanitary Association. J. M'Gregor, Esq., hon. sec., gave an account of the proceedings of the society for the past year, after which Mr. Oliphant Fergusson, the other hon. sec., addressed the meeting on the objects of the society, urging the need for increased subscriptions, and showing the value of its operations. The chairman apologised for the absence of the Archbishop of York. C. Buxton, Esq., M.P., whose donations to the society for the past year amounted to 215*l*., addressed the meeting at some length upon the importance of helping the working man to keep up and cultivate the knowledge obtained at school. He considered that the 1,000 libraries already supplied by this society would each be used by 75 to 150 readers. He spoke of the increase of periodical literature as a great blessing to the country, and stated that whereas in 1831 the circulation of London newspapers had been 38,000,000, it was now 205,000,000, while the country newspapers circulated to the number of 340,000,000, and magazine literature had increased in equal proportion. He was happy to say that impure literature, which some years ago circulated to the extent of 52,500, had been last year reduced to 9,000, showing that when good literature was placed in competition with bad the bad was destroyed. Lord Shaftesbury having been obliged to leave, the Bishop of Cashel took the chair, and after addresses from Colonel Sir R. Anstruther and from the Hon. and Rev. Mr. Best, who adverted to the question of opening the rooms connected with village libraries on Sunday evenings, taking the view that they should be open as a counter attraction to the public-house, and also spoke of the usefulness of the society to the book-hawking movement, the meeting separated about eleven o'clock.

ESHER-STREET SUNDAY-SCHOOL.—The 30th anniversary of the above was held a short time ago in the schoolroom adjoining the chapel. Tea was provided, after which the chair was taken by the Rev. R. E. Forsaith, of Orange-street Chapel. The report read by the secretary was very encouraging. Interesting speeches were made by the chairman, the Rev. Mr. O'Neill, of Islington, the Rev. Mr. Frame, of Horsleydown, the Rev. Mr. Nimmo, of Peckham, and others; especial reference being made to the pastor of the place, who is now absent for a few months to recruit his health which for some time past has been declining. Great sympathy has been shown towards him in his affliction, by the members of his own and neighbouring congregations. The meeting expressed the highest esteem for Mr. Marchant's private character, and for his public services amongst them, and expressed an earnest hope that he may be restored to the full enjoyment of health, and minister to them as pastor and teacher for years to come.

WOOD-GREEN.—A social tea-meeting of the church and congregation assembling here, was held on Wednesday week in the new Congregational

chapel, the numbers attending being far too large for accommodation in the temporary chapel, which is now used as a schoolroom. About 130 friends were present at the tea, and considerably more at the meeting which followed. After the tea the chair was taken by the pastor, the Rev. J. W. Tapper. In the course of the evening addresses were delivered by several friends of the cause. Before the meeting terminated, a testimonial numerously signed was presented to the pastor, and also a purse of gold.

FIELD-LANE RAGGED-SCHOOLS.—The twenty-second annual meeting of the friends and supporters of these schools and refuges was held on Wednesday evening, at the schoolroom, Victoria-street, Holborn-hill. The Earl of Shaftesbury presided, and was supported by Lord de Blaquiere, Mr. Abel Smith, M.P., Mr. T. Chambers (the Common Serjeant), Mr. Deputy Judge Payne, Mr. Henry Vincent, Mr. G. Murphy, and a large number of the district clergy. Mr. Taxwell, the secretary, read the report, of which the following is an extract:—During the past year 110 new scholars had been admitted into the infant school, the average attendance being 185. In the boys' school there had been 130 new scholars with an average attendance of 100; and 102 had been placed in situations. Since 1842 8,425 boys had been educated in this school. In the girls' school 96 new scholars; average attendance, 44; and 60 had been sent to domestic service. The sewing-class had made 642 garments. In the evening school for boys 150 new scholars, with an average attendance of 70. In the evening school for men and boys there had been an average attendance of 60. The tailors' and shoemakers' classes had been attended on an average by 45. The elder girls' night-school had received 132 new scholars, and the average attendance was 80. The girls' evening industrial classes were attended by an average of 110, who have made 400 garments. Several prizes varying in amount from 20s. to 2s. 6d., had been given to 72 girls who had retained their situations over twelve months. The Penny Bank had 600 depositors of cash amounting to 220l. The mothers' meetings, the Bible-classes, the clothing clubs, the ragged church, and the Sunday services, were all well attended and prospering. The male night-refuge had received 3,234 strangers, of which number 711 had been provided for. In the female 2,647 persons have been sheltered from the streets, a large number between 5 and 20 years of age, of whom 747 have been provided for. The Bible-women and the Maternal Society have proved a great boon to the sick and distressed poor during the winter. More than 10,000 men, women, and children have during the past year partaken of the benefits of this institution, and 1,695 have been taken from the streets and placed in a position to earn their daily bread. Although the income for the year has been better than usual, the committee, looking at the necessity that will compel them to rebuild the whole premises on another site, view the future with anxiety, and hope to receive the continued and extended support of their friends. The gross income for the year has been 4,183l. 12s. 8d., and the expenditure, including 1,000l. invested, 3,739l. 11s. 11d., leaving a balance of 444l. 0s. 9d. Mr. Abel Smith, M.P., moved the adoption of the report, which was seconded by the Rev. Mr. Boyle, and agreed to.

SOUTHAMPTON.—The Rev. T. Hill, M.A., has resigned the charge of the Congregational church assembling at Kingsfield Chapel, Southampton.

SMALLBRIDGE, NEAR ROCHDALE.—On Saturday last, the corner-stone of a new Congregational church was laid by Mr. T. B. Willans, of Rochdale, at Smallbridge, in the presence of at least 2,000 persons. The old place of worship in this populous and thriving village having become too small for the accommodation of the increasing congregation, the erection of a more commodious chapel and school was highly necessary.

DOUGLAS, ISLE OF MAN.—The Rev. Anthony Thompson, B.A., the recently-ordained pastor of the Congregational church, Athol-street, Douglas, has been compelled, in consequence of ill-health, and acting on the advice of his medical attendant, to take three months' rest from ministerial labour. Meantime the duties of the pastorate will, it is hoped, be discharged by the Rev. R. H. Cooke, who has seceded from the Wesleyan Methodist body, and who preached in the Congregational chapel for the first time on Sunday week.

INDEPENDENT CHAPEL, TUNSTALL, POTTERIES.—This place of worship is at present without a resident pastor, has had a debt of 300l., to clear off which a bazaar was held on Tuesday and Wednesday and Thursday last week, in the chapel and school, which were very tastefully decorated with evergreens and flowers, banners and suitable mottoes. There was a profuse display of articles. There was a large attendance on both days from the surrounding country. The total proceeds of the sales for the three days and admission tickets are 167l. 5s. 7½d. This, with 64l. 11s. 6d. received as donations, makes the liberal sum thus obtained towards the reduction of the debt, 231l. 17s. 1½d. The articles remaining unsold were to be disposed of by private treaty.

OSSETT—NEW INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS.—On Thursday, Mr. Joseph Ellis, of Ossett, Yorkshire, laid the foundation-stone of a building intended to be used as schools, &c., in connection with the Ossett Green Independent chapel. The Sunday-school scholars, teachers, and friends walked in procession from the chapel, passing along the high road, and then returned to the site of the intended building, which is only separated from the chapel by a narrow lane. Various neighbouring ministers took part in the service. There was afterwards a tea-meeting. The new building will cost about 1,800l. It will be

adapted for public assemblies as well as school accommodation. There will be a large hall capable of seating 700 adults, an infant-school, a reading-room, a lecture-room, besides various class-rooms.

YARMOUTH, NORFOLK.—On Thursday, the Baptist chapel which has been recently erected upon the ground formerly known as "The Bleach," facing Crown-road and St. George's Denes, was formally opened by special religious services. The chapel is a neat, unpretending structure of white brick, and is seated for the accommodation of about 400 persons. The total cost of the building, including the ground, was about 1,500l. At the morning service the Rev. Mr. Price, the pastor, gave out the hymns, the Rev. Mr. Green read the lessons, and the Rev. Mr. Robinson, of Cambridge, preached, and took for his text, Deut. xxxii. 3, 4—"Ascribe ye greatness unto our God. He is the rock, his work is perfect." At two o'clock, about 100 friends sat down to an excellent dinner at the Corn Hall, Mr. G. Blake in the chair. The company was addressed by the Rev. Mr. Price (who stated that the collection in the morning had been 67l.), the Revs. T. A. Wheeler and G. Gould of Norwich, the Rev. W. Simpson (Wesleyan), Rev. W. Tritton, and other gentlemen.

KING'S LYNN, NORFOLK.—On Thursday, May 26th, the Rev. William Jones, late of Hackney College, London, was ordained as pastor of the Congregational church in this town. The Rev. James Smith, of Wisbeach, read the Scriptures and offered prayer. The Rev. John Hallett, of Norwich, delivered the introductory discourse. The Rev. John Alexander, of Norwich, asked the questions, and offered the ordination prayer. The Rev. Samuel McAll, President of Hackney College, gave the charge. In the evening a public meeting was held, which was presided over by the Rev. W. Jones. Addresses were given by the Revs. E. Jones, of Ipswich; S. McAll, of London; H. Cope, of Watton; J. Smith, of Lynn; J. Smith, of Wisbech; and Mr. James Jones, of Portsmouth; the Rev. H. Hastings, of Buckland; J. Andrews, of Hingham; J. T. Wigner and J. Hearnshaw, of Lynn, took part in the services of the day.

BLACKBURN.—On Monday evening week a tea-meeting was given in the schoolroom of James-street Chapel, Blackburn, to fathers and mothers of the humbler classes, by the ladies of the congregation. There were between 200 and 300 persons present. The chair was taken by the Rev. J. B. Lister, the pastor, who welcomed the people in the name of his church and congregation. He said that some time since they had secured the services of Mrs. Saunders to go about among the people of Blackburn to do them good. Her instructions had been that she was to interest people in education, in the care of their children, in the management of their household, in being good wives and good husbands, in the teaching of the Word of God, and in their spiritual condition. He knew that her mission had been largely successful, more largely than could be freely spoken of there. She had sought to interest people in the public worship of God—not making proselytes; not insisting that those whom she visited should go to any particular place, but recommending them, if inclined to the church, to go there, if to the chapel, to select their own; and promising to find them room, if they would come to the sanctuary where she attended. After an address from Mr. Spencer, Mr. Lister, addressing Mrs. Saunders, said that he had been entrusted with a very beautiful present for her, which he now held in his hand. It consisted of an elegantly-bound Bible and hymn-book. Both had been purchased by the pence, freely given, of poor people exclusively, to whom her laborious efforts had been directed. He was glad to know that she lived in the good feeling of those to whom she ministered; indeed, that large meeting and this gift evinced the interest taken in her and her work. Addresses were afterwards delivered by Mr. Hoole, J.P., Mr. Waugh, Mr. Beatty, Mr. B. Whittaker, and Mr. Scott (Lower Darwen). The interest of the meeting was well sustained till nearly ten o'clock.

TIPTREE, ESSEX.—The memorial stone of the new Congregational chapel at Tiptree Heath was laid on Tuesday by Isaac Perry, Esq., of Chelmsford, with the usual appropriate religious ceremony, in the presence of a numerous assembly of Dissenting ministers and friends and supporters connected with that interest from various parts of Essex. The Rev. T. Sowter, pastor of the chapel, gave out a hymn and read portions of Scripture, and the Rev. C. Riggs, the former minister, prayed. Mr. C. J. Wilkin, of Trewlands, in a few complimentary words presented Mr. Perry with a handsome silver trowel, with the following inscription:—"Presented to Isaac Perry, Esq., in remembrance of his laying the memorial stone of the new chapel, Tiptree Heath. May 31st, 1864." Mr. Perry proceeded to spread the mortar upon which the memorial stone was lowered, and it having been tested by the tools of the artificer was considered to be properly laid. The memorial stone bears the following inscription:—"This memorial stone was laid by Isaac Perry, Esq., of Chelmsford, May, 1864. Ps. xc. 16, 17. Erected 1720. Rebuilt 1864." Mr. Perry having performed this duty stood forward and addressed the assembly. Various subscriptions from friends of the chapel, including 100l. from Mr. Perry, were laid on the stone by Mr. Sowter, and rain following, the service was brought to a close by the Rev. T. W. Davids pronouncing the benediction. In the afternoon there was a service in a commodious barn in the occupation of Mr. Wilkin. After singing a hymn, the Rev. T. W. Davids ascended the pulpit and read a chapter, and engaged in prayer, which after another hymn was followed by the Rev. J. Baldwin Brown, of London, delivering an

impressive discourse from St. John ix, and the last clause in the 14th verse—"Behold your King." At the close of the service a collection was made amounting with the proceeds of the day to 67l. 8s., and which, added to 825l. previously subscribed, made a gross total of 892l. in hand, towards defraying the expenses of the chapel, which, however, will require to be aided by considerable further subscriptions. Between 150 and 170 friends partook of an excellent tea in the barn, where several addresses were afterwards delivered. The day's proceedings then closed. The total amount required for defraying the expenses connected with erecting the chapel is 1,150l., so that in addition to 892l. collected from various sources, the sum of 258l. remains to be raised. A cordial letter of sympathy was received from Mr. Alderman Mecchi, who had previously given pecuniary help to the new chapel. The new building will accommodate about 560 persons.

WALLINGFORD.—On Sunday, May 22nd, the Baptist chapel, Thames-street, Wallingford, was reopened after having been closed for extensive alterations and improvements, when two sermons were preached by the minister of the place, the Rev. Thomas Brooks. On the following day (Monday) tea was provided gratuitously, through the kindness of members of the church and congregation, in the schoolroom, which was crowded and overflowing. In the evening a public meeting was held in the chapel, presided over by the Rev. T. Brooks. The Rev. C. M. C. Davies of Wallingford (Independent) read the Scriptures and offered prayer, and addresses were delivered by the Rev. Messrs. P. G. Scorey, of Wokingham; W. T. Rosvear, of Abingdon; J. Aldis, of Reading; W. Allen, of Oxford; H. Pawling, of Aston Tirrold; and R. Pringsee, of Goring; after which the proceedings were closed by the Rev. C. A. Claypole, of Wallingford. The meeting was well attended, the speeches various and good, and altogether it was said to be the best meeting of Nonconformists ever held in Wallingford. The chapel is greatly improved both internally and externally—the interior being almost entirely new. The cost of the whole is nearly 400l. Towards this sum 112l. have been paid, and the proceeds of the reopening services amounted to about 30l., and promises have been received which leave but about 50l. more to be provided, of which one friend who has contributed freely already has promised one-fourth providing the rest is obtained before the close of the present year. Everyone seemed surprised and pleased by the great improvements effected and many expressed their admiration.

HASTINGS.—Robertson-street Congregational Chapel, in this fashionable watering-place, has been greatly enlarged and improved, and 390 additional sittings have been obtained, at an expense of nearly 2,000l. The reopening services took place on Wednesday last. The Rev. C. H. Spurgeon preached to an overflowing congregation from 1. Thess. i. 3. During the service, a new and powerful organ was brought into use. In the afternoon, a cold collation was provided in the school-room beneath the chapel. About 180 persons sat down. The principal table was presided over by the Rev. J. Griffin, the pastor, who was supported by the Mayor (J. Rock, Jun., Esq.), the Revs. C. H. Spurgeon, A. Reed, F. Thompson (Manchester), H. Stewart, W. Porter, W. Barker, M. Salter, J. Pillans (Camberwell), R. H. Bleby; and Messrs. Joynson, Spicer, William Edwards, &c. Mr. Griffin, in the course of his opening speech, said that Mr. Joynson, the eminent paper-maker, had contributed 500l. towards the expenses of enlarging the chapel. The Rev. W. Porter gave a financial statement of the position of the building. Including Mr. Joynson's munificent donation, the money given or promised amounted to about 2,000l. Besides the cost of the enlargement, it was desired to pay for the organ, 300l., and the freehold of the land, 800l., and to do that they required to collect 600l. more. Mr. Dobell, one of the deacons, followed, and in seconding Mr. Porter's thanks to the contributors, he mentioned the names of Mr. Jacombe and Mr. Edwards as large contributors. Mr. Joynson, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Spicer, Mr. Rock, and the Revs. A. Reed, R. H. Bleby, and W. Barker took part in the proceedings. Under the influence of the remarks made, several large donations were announced, including 100l. more from Mr. Joynson, and sums of 25l. and 50l., conditionally that the whole debt should be cleared off during the reopening services. In this way (including 65l. collected in the morning) no less than 430l. was secured. Mr. Spurgeon also preached in the evening to a congregation, packed as closely as the building would hold, from Acts xiv. 6—10. The collection amounted to 48l. 3s. 6d. Some other sums, in addition to those subscribed in the afternoon, have also been promised, making the total amount over 500l. The illness of the Rev. T. Binney prevented him from preaching on Sunday evening, but his place was supplied by the Rev. Paxton Hood, of Brighton.

ABBEY FOREGATE CHAPEL, SHREWSBURY.—Our last number contained a brief report of the opening services in connection with this new and handsome chapel, which is adapted to seat some 900 persons. The cost, inclusive of land and schools, was between 5,000l. and 6,000l. The cold collation between the services was presided over by Thos. Barnes, Esq., M.P., and in the course of the proceedings a vote of thanks was passed to the Revs. Dr. Vaughan and E. Mellor, for their pulpit services. Dr. Vaughan said he was very glad to see the structure raised in which they had assembled, and glad to be able to look upon it as a memorial offering in connection with the Bicentenary.

The Bicentenary was past—a chapter in the bygone now; but on looking back upon it he did not think that

English Nonconformists had any reason to blush for it. He did not mean to say that no one had ever uttered an unguarded expression, or that no discussion had taken place in consequence; but on looking back at the discussion he had been amazed at the tone of moderation that had characterised it. Churchmen were now proclaiming the same things that had been said by Nonconformists, and admitting that the whole proceeding of 1662 was an atrocious affair that if they now had their will they would have undone. That showed them that the Nonconformists were not without authority for what they did; and what they did God had made the means of awakening a religious feeling in the country which had not been equalled for 200 years. With regard to the vote of thanks in connection with the services at that chapel he might just say that it was hardly right to suppose if they could get a place out of debt all would be right. One very great advantage would be secured; but to have things right and safe, they should ask were they right and safe themselves? It was very important that they should have a minister who would be the right man and who would tell the right story. If they would be right they should assist that minister. It was a great mistake to suppose that an effective minister would be able to do all himself. Their success would depend in future in endeavouring to have such a minister as he had described, and once having such a man, to rally round him, and show all good feeling to him and to all the churches in the neighbourhood. It was unfortunate for some congregations who had a good minister that they were not always agreeable amongst themselves. He had known, in such cases, many people who would go and hear him in the evening, and who liked the minister very well, but who could not mix with the sect. He hoped that should never be said of the people worshipping in the Abbey Foregate Chapel. He believed that those who had connected themselves with such a work as that, for the honour of Christ, would do all in their power for His honour and glory. With regard to the congregational system of church government, it was only meant for men of sense. (Hear, and laughter.) For foolish people, who wished to have a great many masters, it would not do. Independency was on the principle of "live, and let live," for in that body no one man was to set up his opinion, and say that his judgment should will all the rest, but was to regulate his course in harmony with the others. He knew an esteemed minister who one day said, "O! for a cure for the evils of independency," and he said to him that he could find a score of cases any five minutes of the day, but every remedy was worse than the disease. The only way to avoid the evils was to stick to the thing itself, but if they tried to mend they would get from the experience of the frying-pan into the fire. It was a sort of republican form of government, and it was always admitted in favour of republics, that they must be in the hands of men of great public intelligence, and of great public virtue. It was thought to be an honour to the public that they required such men to work them. Those were the sort of men that were wanted in the Independent Church. They wanted men and women of a fair measure of intelligence, and of Christian feeling one toward another.

Mr. Mellor referred to his visit to Shrewsbury on the occasion of the Bicentenary, and stated that since that time a pamphlet had been published by Dean Stanley, containing far stronger language than anything he had written in his. An attack had been made upon him (Mr. Mellor) by a person who attempted to answer his pamphlet, but he would venture to say that a more ill-considered attack had never been made, and one which the writer regretted to the day of his death—for he had since died. He was willing to give every man credit for all honesty, but he could not help asking what was the religion of the Established Church of England? If he sent in his resignation to his people in Liverpool in favour of the Church of England, and he was asked what was the religion he was going to support—was it the religion of Dean Stanley, Bishop Colenso, or Dr. Pusey? he would say, in the presence of his God and Saviour, with his hand upon his heart, that he did not know what religion the Church of England was, nor did any man in England. On Lord's-day, June 5th, two most impressive sermons were preached by the Rev. W. H. Dyer, of Bath. The congregations were excellent; in the evening the spacious building was well filled. The total amount of collections and promised subscriptions at the opening services was 1,135l. 3s. 8d.

Correspondence.

TAMWORTH CHURCH-RATE. To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—As the reports of this case (Hill and Bailey v. Haslow) in the public papers have but imperfectly given the effect of Dr. Lushington's judgment in the Court of Arches, the following statement may be acceptable. The objection to the rate was its inequality and unfairness towards the individual ratepayers. The parish is divided into six townships, and the valuation on which the assessment was made was twenty-five or thirty years old.

The unfairness of individual ratings was so glaring, even to the eyes of a churchwarden, that it was impossible to defend them in detail, and an ingenious attempt was made to do so by saying that each township as a whole paid its fair proportion of the rate of the parish, and the consequence of this would be that though A, and B, occupying properties of the same rateable value, were rated, the one at 50% and the other at 100%, the latter would have no right to complain, because the township in which he lived paid a total sum in a fair proportion to the others.

This absurdity was of course extinguished at the outset by Dr. Lushington—the rule being that each individual must be fairly rated in proportion to each other individual.

The only other ground for supporting the rate was that it was founded on the poor-rate, and this was equally untenable in law.

The following were in substance the propositions laid down by Dr. Lushington:—

1. That a Church-rate and a poor-rate have no necessary

connection with each other, and that although, if a Church-rate be made according to a poor-rate, the presumption is in its favour, because the presumption is that the poor-rate is good, yet it is a presumption easily rebutted.

2. That it is the duty of the churchwarden to see that each ratepayer is fairly rated, and that he ought, in strictness, to make each rate upon an individual examination of the value of each property, and that if he merely follows the poor-rate, it will be no defence to him if that poor-rate be defective.

3. That, so far from being justified in following an old rating, the presumption is that a rate like the one in question, twenty-five or thirty years old, must be wrong, and almost justifies a judgment against the rate on that ground alone, unless the necessary corrections are made from time to time, in order to bring it in harmony with the varying changes in the parish.

He then went into an examination of the circumstances of such a parish as Tamworth, and the changes it must have undergone in twenty or thirty years from railways, manufactures, mining, collieries, and the advance of science and political economy. He then examined a number of the defendant's objections by the light of these considerations, thereby testing the value of the churchwardens' defence, and the clear evidence that no such changes had been made from time to time in the valuation of the different properties, and the result was that, without going into the defendant's figures at all, he decided against the churchwardens on their own evidence alone, and condemned them in costs.

Yours obediently,

JOHN BENNETT,

Solicitor for the Defendant.

4, Serjeants'-inn, Fleet-street, June 1, 1864.

THE LIBERATION SOCIETY AND THE PRINCIPLE OF ECCLESIASTICAL ENDOWMENTS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Though I do not feel myself equal to a plunge into the depths of a much-vexed question, I cannot refrain (with your permission) from one more dabble in its troubled waters. First let me acknowledge the candid spirit in which you have dealt with my observations. I readily plead guilty to the inadvertence by which I mistook, in part, the name of the society, and then founded an argument on my mistake. I would, however, still submit that the expression, "liberation from patronage," involves some confusion of thought, since patronage, in its proper meaning, involves no idea of restraint. Let it should seem to attach too much importance to the right use of terms, I would observe that a *hitch in terminology* often argues that people did not quite know what they meant or wanted.

However, I gladly deviate into a broader field of discussion, and will begin by noticing the opinion which you mention first in order as being entertained by the society, "that Church property is, in the fullest sense of the term, national property." Now assuredly the endowments held by several Nonconformist churches are not "national property in the fullest sense of the term"; nor would the holders of them be inclined to admit the existence of any such ownership on the part of the nation. Why then are endowments which belong to churches in the Establishment to be regarded in that light?

Of course, all endowments for public purposes are for those purposes public property—whether they be endowments for religious, or educational, or charitable purposes. But it would be a startling proposition to assert that all such endowments "are national property in the fullest sense." Such proprietorship of course involves the right of an absolute disposal of the property possessed. "Is it not lawful for me to do what I will with mine own?" But, surely, it could not be maintained that the nation, acting through its legitimate organs—in other words, that the State—has the right to dispose absolutely of such endowments, any more than it has to dispose absolutely of private men's possessions. The only right which the State has in the case is that of a *just guardianship*.

These observations of course apply in some degree to the second opinion which you state as held by the society. I would further, however, submit that the supposition on which it proceeds—that the nation should ever "determine that religion would be better promoted by applying the property of the Church to secular purposes"—that this supposition is an almost impossible one. Such a determination would in my view be too abhorrent from the general sense of mankind to be ever arrived at—calmly and *bona fide*—by the nation. At least, such has not been the real determination by which former ecclesiastical confiscations have been actuated. Such was not the determination which influenced the Jacobins of 1791 in their confiscation of the ecclesiastical endowments in France. Nor can it, as a matter of fact, be alleged that religion has been improved by that proceeding, if Ultramontanism be a worse form of religion than Gallicanism. The confiscation of Church-property in Spain was not dictated by any regard for religious improvement. The notion of promoting religion by confiscating property dedicated to its uses reminds one of the plea used in defence of the grasping courtiers of Henry VIII., that in plundering the Church they were "easing her of the superfluous wealth by which she was encumbered"! If I may enliven a dry discussion by a short anecdote, I can tell of a wealthy and experienced banker who occasionally attended the ministrations of an able and original preacher in the Established Church, but who gruffly excepted against the rev. gentleman's frequent and emphatic strictures on the subject of riches—"Why does Mr. L.—so often abuse money? money is a very good thing, if it's only well used." So it might be said of the method of endowment for good purposes, it is a very good thing if it be only well used. It would be a strange way of promoting health in the kingdom to confiscate all the funded property of our infirmaries, and throw the support of those establishments entirely upon annual contributions. Let me not, however, be supposed to be making a joke of the subject. The endowment system, like all other things human, has undoubtedly its weak side—has its disadvantages and its capabilities of abuse—but it would be a strange and a slovenly way of avoiding those disadvantages and those capabilities of abuse to make root-and-branch work of the system itself.

I give the society full credit for the fairness and wisdom which has dictated the third opinion which you mention as held by it—that in the event of a confiscation of the property of the Church, regard should be

paid to existing interests and well-founded moral claims. In the fourth opinion I concur, as I implied in my former letter. At the same time I would preclude the contemplation of such an arrangement by the adoption of the far more practicable plan of a liberal comprehension of Trinitarian Nonconformists. With regard to this plan you truly observe that there would be still Nonconformists, and those of an extreme description—rationalists, and I know not what. But we have these already, and that there will always be difference of opinion and schism among professing Christians, is a condition—indeed we may say a necessity—of the imperfect state of the "church militant here on earth."

There is much, Sir, in the concluding portion of your article in which I sympathise, but I must not intrude much further on your columns. I would no more than you admit the jurisdiction of the civil power in spiritual matters; and in its opposition to this principle may the society be prospered!

But I would ask, why should an endowed Church be necessarily subject to such interference? The Established Church of Scotland is in great measure free from it. Whenever the State infringes the charter of ecclesiastical liberties and rights, then is the time to withdraw from connection with it; but so long as it requires no more than good and enlightened Christians can honestly concede, they need not shrink from alliance with it. It is enough if things are well to-day; what they may be to-morrow, we need not speculate,

"Nor be o'er curious

To cast the fashion of uncertain evils."

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

AN EX-INCUMBENT.

P.S.—When speaking of the possibility of a plan for comprehension, I might have pointed out that those Nonconformists who would oppose it are unconsciously doing the work of the Anglo-Catholics and Romanisers, who of course are inimical to the very notion of any such arrangement, as fatal to their distinctive tenets.

THE ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Allow me to correct an error which appears in your last week's notice of the 106th anniversary festival of the above charity. It is there put into the mouth of the chairman "that it was contemplated to erect a new infirmary, towards which one lady had already contributed 1,000l." &c. No such luck! Enlarged infirmaries are required, but in all probability they will form part of the present building, and thus save a considerable expense. For these, and for a new system of drainage absolutely necessary, it was stated that probably 2,000l. will be required. The chairman stated that as one lady, alluding to Miss Chartier, had collected more than 1,000l. for the charity within the last few years, what could be effected if all the ladies present at the dinner (about thirty) were to do the same! and Mr. Gurney urged this, as a lady's question, making provision for the poor sick orphan.

The committee would indeed rejoice if the ladies will take this business in hand, and help to raise a special fund for the purpose of providing rooms for our sick children in case of an epidemic, such as occurred last year amongst them, with all the best modern appliances for the sick-room, such as they have at the Children's Hospital and elsewhere. I shall be most happy to hear from any lady on the subject.

Yours respectfully,

JOSEPH SOUL, Secretary.

32, Ludgate-hill, E.C., May 30th, 1864.

SIR GEORGE GREY'S BILL TO STOP DRUNKENNESS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—The main feature in Sir George Grey's bill now before the House of Commons, is that public-houses are henceforth to close their doors at eleven p.m. This is simply an adoption of the suggestion offered by the Committee on Public-houses in 1854. In that year, however, there appeared in the "North British Review," an article entitled, "How to stop Drunkenness," and in that article it was clearly shown that men seldom beat their wives before ten p.m.; that at that hour men were "what publicans' called mellow," and that if the public-houses were then closed a man would "go home and take his beer to his wife." With these facts before him the author of the article in the "North British Review," strongly advocated "a ten o'clock bill." "That hour from ten to eleven," said he, "is the very turning point in which drinking turns into drunkenness. Let us not be satisfied with half the good, when we can double it so easily. The essence of the plan is to remove the man before his drinking has gone to excess, not merely to turn him out, when already 'half seas over.'" Had this invaluable advice been attended to, and a ten o'clock bill passed in 1854, who can doubt that the victory thus achieved would, in the words of the author in the essay, "outweigh in real importance to our country the capture even of Cronstadt or Sebastopol." It is to be hoped that Sir George Grey will reconsider his bill, and that such M.P.'s as have not already converted No. 1. into a cypher, may be induced to combine with the Secretary for Home Affairs in accomplishing such a feat for his well-intentioned measure.

Yours, &c.,

S. L.

London, June 7, 1864.

The number of patients relieved at the Hospital for Diseases of the Heart, 67, Margaret-street, Cavendish-square, was 97 during the week.

MR. COBDEN ON THE LORD CHANCELLOR'S COUNTY COURT BILL.—Mr. Cobden has been applied to by the Rochdale Tradesmen's Association to give an opinion on the Lord Chancellor's County Courts Act Amendment Bill. In reply, he says he approves of the principle of the measure, but declines to discuss its details until the bill comes into the Commons. He mentions further that the Lord Chancellor has agreed to extend the limitation fixed by the bill from one year to three, and has promised to take other suggestions into consideration. Mr. Cobden urges the association to petition the Lords for such amendments as they desire to see introduced into the bill.

Foreign and Colonial.

THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.

FURTHER RETREAT OF LEE.

Intelligence from New York by the Africa comes down to May 26th.

The following connected view of the war news is from the *Daily News*, with some few additional details:—

It was supposed that after the Federals crossed the Rapidan, on the 4th of May, the Confederates retired not by necessity but by design to a chosen and impregnable position. Indeed, some military journalists who might be expected to know something of war, boldly predicted that Spottsylvania Court-house would prove to the Confederacy what Waterloo proved to the French Empire. Scarcely was the prediction hazarded before it has been falsified. Secretary Stanton cautiously announced to General Dix that, according to telegraphic despatches received on Sunday, the 22nd, there were indications that Lee had fallen back beyond the North Anna River some fifteen miles south of Spottsylvania Court-house. And according to a despatch from New York, dated the 26th, it is stated upon the authority of General Grant, that "Lee had concentrated his army in a strong position between the North Anna and the South Anna rivers." Experience shows that amidst the excitement of battle there is a disposition to exaggerate, and, considering the great issues at stake, this is not surprising. But, making every allowance, there is no ground of reasonable doubt that General Lee has abandoned his entrenched position at Spottsylvania Court-house, and has retreated to a point nearer Richmond. It is to be remembered that on the 12th of May Lee occupied an entrenched position on the north bank of the Po, at Spottsylvania Court-house, between 50 and 60 miles north of Richmond. In his rear were the railways communicating with the south-west and with Richmond. Grant was in Lee's front, facing towards the south. In his rear was the Rappahannock, and Fredericksburg, on the banks of that river. The only advantage possessed by Grant over Lee was, that whilst Grant was only ten or twelve miles from Fredericksburg, which could be supplied to any extent from the sea, Lee was dependent for his supplies on Richmond, fifty miles in his rear, and on more remote districts—the transport being entirely by land. From the 12th until Tuesday, the 17th, both armies remained quiescent. In fact, the rains, the necessity of recruiting the exhausted troops, and of getting up reinforcements, had prevented any offensive movement. But on the 17th the roads had become passable, and the reinforcements had joined Grant. Accordingly, on Wednesday, the 18th, General Grant seems to have determined to ascertain the position of the enemy. For this purpose he directed Hancock, supported by the 6th Corps and Burnside's Corps, to advance against what proved to be the left wing of the Confederates. Hancock carried the rifle-pits in front, but finding a strong abatis before him, he retired with the loss of 800 killed and wounded. At six in the evening of Wednesday all was quiet. But next day, Thursday, the 19th, General Ewell was ordered by Lee to attack the right flank of the Federals, in the hope of cutting off some supply-trains, and perhaps of alarming Grant for his communications. This attack also was promptly repulsed, with the loss of 600 wounded and 150 killed and missing; the Federals, however, capturing 300 prisoners. These events must have made it certain to General Grant, not only that the enemy was in force in his front, but that he was in a very strong position. To carry it by an attack in front would have been extremely hazardous, perhaps impossible. If Grant's army was to get nearer to Richmond, it must be by marching to Lee's left or to his right—to the west or to the east. A flank march to the west was out of the question, because, while such a movement would not have affected Lee's communications with Richmond, it would have exposed those of the Federal army with Fredericksburg. Grant therefore determined to make a sweep round Lee's right. Accordingly on the night of Friday, the 20th of May, Hancock moved eastward towards the Fredericksburg and Richmond railway, and then turning southward reached Guinea Station, on the railway about six miles east of Spottsylvania Court-house, and somewhat nearer Richmond than that place. Another corps was directed to follow the same route. The result was that Lee was turned—his communications were in danger, and therefore Longstreet and Ewell were at once directed to march southward. Grant seems to have continued his march along the railway from Guinea's Station, twelve miles due south of Fredericksburg, to Mudford or Milford Station, so that he must now be within forty miles of the Virginian capital. The important point for Grant to reach is Sexton's Junction, between the North Anna and the South Anna Rivers. At this point, the railways from the West and the railways from the North unite. The possession of this point will, therefore, prevent General Lee from obtaining any supplies from any district north of Richmond except by means of those miserable tracks which are dignified by the name of roads, but which in bad weather become almost impassable. Grant, on the other hand, has a railway behind him, whilst he communicates with Washington and the whole North by means of that circle of river and sea-coast which almost surrounds his rear. The line from Aquia Creek to Fredericksburg was put in working order as he advanced.

The *New York Tribune* asserts that Grant's movement from Spottsylvania was not a flanking movement, but a pursuit of Lee, whose main army had already crossed the North Anna River when Hancock moved on Friday, the 20th. General Lee's attack upon Grant's rear on Thursday was made to cover his retreat.

The special correspondent of the *New York Times*, writing from Guinea's Station, May 21, 7 p.m., says:—

Our army is now all gone from the front it has held before Spottsylvania Court-house for the past two weeks, and the lines of Spottsylvania pass into history. They are associated with fighting as desperate as was ever made by embattled foes, and by the greatest valour on the part of both armies. Its woods sepulchre thousands of bodies of brave men, killed in the great cause for which

this army marches and fights and suffers. You will notice by the map that our present front, while it puts us in a very advantageous position in regard to the enemy, at the same time perfectly covers our communications, which are by way of Fredericksburg and Aquia Creek. The railroad will soon be open from Aquia Creek to Fredericksburg, and will doubtless be put in order south of that point as we advance. There are also several available points of water communication by the Rappahannock, as at Port Royal, &c., which will probably be used. I should misrepresent the conviction of the soundest heads in this army if I should convey the impression that our progress is to be now only a triumphal march. We shall be met by the most obdurate resistance which skill and courage on the part of the enemy can command. But General Grant has given you the keynote of the sentiment of this army; we shall go through with this business, "if it takes all summer to do it."

The latest despatches from General Grant state that Lee has concentrated his army in a strong position between the North and South Anna Rivers. It will require two or three days to develop Grant's operations.

Hoke's brigade, from North Carolina, had reinforced Lee.

Upwards of 20,000 sick and wounded had been transported from the field of battle to the Washington hospitals, and placed under surgical care. Over 8,000 prisoners had been transported from the field to prison depôts, and large amounts of artillery and other implements of an active campaign brought away.

General Warren had captured some Confederate official papers, among them an order calling out all boys seventeen years of age to garrison Richmond. Ambulance men and musicians were also ordered to the ranks.

The *Richmond Inquirer* of the 19th estimates the Confederate losses during the eight days' fighting at 20,000 in killed, wounded, and missing.

Mr. Stanton, Secretary of War, announces that 25,000 veteran troops had been sent to reinforce General Grant, also that General Grant's army is as strong in numbers and better equipped than when the campaign opened. The Secretary of War also says that since the battle of Spottsylvania Court-house, over 30,000 volunteers for 100 days had been mustered into the service, clothed, armed, equipped, and transported to their respective positions. A draught, to make good all reductions by expiration of terms of service, losses in battle, or otherwise, and to provide the necessary reinforcements, will be made on July 1.

The Confederates do not seem to have inflicted any material blow on the forces commanded by Butler and "Baldy" Smith which went up the James River. It may be remembered that on Monday, the 16th, Butler was obliged to retire within the entrenchments which he had constructed at Bermuda Hundred, in the angle formed by the James River and the Appomattox River. The position of Butler is such that he must either be defeated and driven out, or the Confederates must maintain a considerable force in his front to watch him. If they neglect this, the result must be that the railway communications between Richmond and the South will be interrupted, or perhaps destroyed. Beauregard therefore determined to drive Butler out. For this purpose he assaulted the entrenchments on Thursday, the 19th, and carried some rifle-pits with a Federal loss of 2,500 men. But on the night of Saturday, the 21st, Beauregard repeated the assault, and was repulsed with considerable loss. The Confederates were said to be 23,000 strong. On the 21st Beauregard was in command, and President Davis in the field. The Federals were greatly protected by their gunboats on the James and Appomattox rivers.

The *New York Herald's* letter from General Butler's head-quarters, dated the 22nd, in narrating the repulse of an attempted surprise, in which the Confederates were baffled, says:—

The gunboats on the James and Appomattox rivers also opened their batteries and shelled the woods around, making them decidedly uncomfortable for the rebel reserves. At last, when the enemy found that we were well prepared for his advance, and having already lost very heavily, he thought it best to withdraw, which he did, after giving our mettle a fair and impartial test. The fight lasted about thirty-five minutes, and as soon as it was over our men proceeded to bury the rebel killed on the field. I learn from good authority that 263 were interred by our forces. Our loss will not be more than ten killed and about fifty wounded, as we had all the advantage on our side, constantly on the defensive and the enemy marching boldly up to our entrenchments. Our defences are almost impregnable. Should Lee's entire rebel horde pounce on General Butler the latter could still hold his own. The fleet in James and Appomattox rivers is a great auxiliary to our army.

General Fitzhugh Lee has been repulsed in an attack on Wilson's Wharf, on the north side of the James River. Confederate cavalry had attacked Fort Powhattan, on the James River, garrisoned by negro troops, but were repulsed.

The movements of the Federal Generals, Crook and Averill, in Western Virginia, have been of some importance. At Lynchburg on this line is one of the principal depôts of the Confederates, and to obtain possession of this place, or of the roads leading to it and to Richmond, would be to isolate more completely that city. The object of the Federals in this quarter is to attain these results by breaking up the line and destroying whatever stores may be accumulated in the neighbourhood. Early in May, General Crook had defeated the Confederates in these quarters in three actions, and on the 13th of that month he was at Newbern, close to the railway, and some miles west of Lynchburg.

Sherman continues his advance on Atlanta. He

had already reached Kingston, a station on the railway some 70 miles south of Chattanooga, and, after a rest of two days, he resumed the pursuit of Johnstone on Monday, the 23rd; but there were still 60 miles between Kingston and Atlanta. Sherman, however, has now passed the difficult and mountainous district of Northern Georgia, which covers some 60 miles, and descended to the great and fertile plain beyond, having captured Rome, where he found a great deal of provisions and seven fine iron-works and machine-shops. The railroad to Kingston from Chattanooga was in working order, and supplies were being forwarded in abundance. At Atlanta, where there was an important railway-junction, it was expected Johnstone would make a determined stand, and fight his opponent.

There is better news for the Federals from the Red River. Admiral Porter, under date "Mouth of Red River," the 16th, notified the Navy Department that by damming the river he had been enabled to float his remaining gunboats over the falls. A despatch from Major-General Canby, dated the 18th, at the mouth of the Red River, states that General Banks's troops had arrived at Semmesport. The army was in better condition than was expected, and would soon be ready to resume offensive operations. An unofficial report from Cairo, dated May 22, states that the army and gunboats were all safe at the mouth of the Red River and Semmesport.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Gold was 85 per cent. premium on the 26th of May.

President Lincoln on the 24th submitted to the House of Representatives the correspondence between Secretary Seward and Minister Dayton in regard to the resolutions of the House relative to the French in Mexico. Mr. Seward disclaims any intention on the part of the Senate or Administration to support the resolutions.

The Government suppressed the *World* and *Journal of Commerce* for having published the forged proclamation. Both printing-offices were placed in possession of the military, who were subsequently withdrawn. Mr. Howard, of the *Brooklyn Daily Eagle*, had been arrested as the author of the forged proclamation, and sent to Fort Lafayette. He had confessed his guilt and implicated others. He concocted the proclamation for speculative purposes. He was a Republican in politics, and a prominent member of the King's County Republican Committee. He was at one time private secretary to the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher. Governor Seymour had ordered the indictment of every person engaged in the seizure of the offices of the *World* and *Journal of Commerce*. Most of the leading journals of New York, irrespective of party, condemn the severity of the action of the Government towards these papers.

The Confederate steamer Florida left Bermuda on the 14th ult., it is believed for the track of the New York and Liverpool steamers.

A Natchez despatch says that, in retaliation for the murder of three coloured soldiers, a negro company recently captured ten Confederates, and instantly put them to death.

General Kirby Smith was concentrating a large force at Camden, Arkansas, to attack General Steele's forces at Little Rock. General Smith had issued an address to his soldiers, telling them that the fruits of the campaign inaugurated by the battle of Mansfield were:—Eight thousand Federals killed and wounded, 6,000 Federal prisoners, thirty-four pieces of artillery, 1,200 waggons, one gunboat, and three transports.

Advices from Matamoros, via New Orleans, state that numerous collisions had taken place between the Mexican and French inhabitants. Cortinas had hung one Frenchman.

FRANCE.

The *Moniteur du Soir* says:—"It is asserted that public opinion at Copenhagen energetically demands a resumption of hostilities, the present season of the year being especially favourable to the Danes. In case of fresh delays arising, their naval strength could but be neutralised by the approach of the bad season."

The French Government have issued an Imperial decree, according to which rice in grain and rice in straw may be admitted into France until further orders free of duty, coming from any country and under any flag. Another decree modifies the tariffs upon unmanufactured and manufactured gold, silver, and platinum imported into France.

M. Rénan has declined to accept the office of Assistant Curator of the Imperial Library, to which he had been appointed by Imperial decree. M. Rénan declares that he desires to retain the title of Professor of Hebrew and Syriac, and he offers to fulfil the duties which that title confers upon him without salary, by delivering lectures at his own house. But the *Moniteur* announces that the vacant chair will be filled up. The French Liberal papers do not approve of the offer made by the latter, regarding it only as an attempt to deprive M. Rénan of his professional rank, and to place him in a position where his eloquence and his talents as a lecturer would be of no avail.

The Court of Cassation has rejected the appeal of La Pommerais, in accordance with the suggestions of the Procureur-Général.

DENMARK AND GERMANY.

The *Dagblad* expresses itself violently against England's proposal at the Conference for the division of Schleswig, and demands that the Government should meet it with a decided resistance. The *Flyveposten*—organ of the Conservative party—likewise prefers war to the acceptance of this proposal.

It is stated at Copenhagen that, since there is a possibility of a renewal of hostilities, it was resolved at the Privy Council of State to convoke the Rigsdag (representation of Denmark and Schleswig).

A Frankfort journal asserts that at the last sitting of the London Conference the Danish Plenipotentiaries declined a prolongation of the armistice; but promised, at the solicitation of the neutral Powers, to procure instructions from their Government in time for the next sitting of the Conference. The neutral Powers insisted upon the River Schlei being laid down as the demarcation line in Schleswig, and that no new fortifications should be constructed in the German portion of that province; that the frontier line should run through the town of Apenrade, as proposed by the German Powers, was rejected by the neutral Powers; and a proposition from the same source that under certain circumstances the inhabitants of the Duchies should be consulted, was also rejected.

The Duke of Augustenburg has already left Berlin. He returns, it is believed, to his country seat; and a Berlin telegram reports it to be uncertain whether he will carry out his projected visit to the Court of Vienna.

From Aarhus, Randers, and Niborg, and from every place in Jutland, addresses have been despatched to his Majesty, to which the inhabitants state that war is preferable to the loss of Schleswig.

A meeting of 6,000 North Schleswigers has been held on the hills of Bøghoeved, near Hadersleben, at which the following declaration was adopted:—"The proposal of the French and English plenipotentiaries at the London Conference to divide Schleswig is contrary to the most important vital interests of the country. We consider it the greatest misfortune that can befall us. We will never be cut off from Schleswig, and never be incorporated with Denmark."

The *North German Gazette*, of Berlin, says:—

We believe ourselves able to state positively that at the last sitting of the Conference, the proposal of Prussia, that the frontier line should run through the town of Apenrade to the west coast, was designated as the ultimate condition which that Power would consider acceptable. Considering that public opinion in the Duchies is adverse to the division of Schleswig, and the unwillingness on the part of the neutral Powers to take this circumstance into account, the great German Powers have no other policy to pursue than to remain in the liberated Duchies and await whoever will drive them out.

SPAIN.

A telegram from Madrid states that the Peruvian Consul in that city has announced to the Spanish Government that he is empowered to arrange all the differences which exist between the two Governments.

The Progressist Committee, disregarding the differences prevailing between Senores Espartero and Olozaga, has resolved upon reorganising the party.

GREECE AND THE IONIAN ISLANDS.

The Greeks on Thursday took formal possession of the Ionian Islands, ceded to them by England. It was stated that England has, at the request of Greece, agreed to protect the Ionians against the Turks for another year.

A great calamity has just happened in Corfu. A powder magazine exploded, destroying fifty houses—including a fort, the hospital, the Custom House, and some factories—killing ninety soldiers and forty-seven civilians, and wounding about thirty of the former and more than 200 of the latter.

TUNIS.

The insurrection against the Bey of Tunis seems to become more formidable. It has spread almost to the gates of the capital, and the demands of the Arabs have increased. Those who have already paid the extra taxes now demand to have their money returned to them. The French commander in Algeria reports hopefully upon the prospect of subduing the insurrection in that colony.

CHINA.

According to a telegram from Shanghai, dated April 22, Major Gordon has defeated the rebels at Waisoo, and expected that Nankin and Soochow would surrender shortly.

NEW ZEALAND.

There has been more severe fighting in New Zealand. The official telegram states that Brigadier-General Carey attacked the rebel position at Arahau, and, after two days fighting, compelled them to retreat with a loss of 101 killed and thirty-three prisoners. The British loss was sixteen killed and forty-two wounded. Colonel Warre had driven the rebels from a formidable position near New Plymouth, without loss. An unofficial telegram says that an engagement also took place at Tarachi, where the British troops were repulsed. The two telegrams differ so widely in the names given to the various places that it is not clear how many engagements have really been fought. The end of the war seems yet very distant.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

A bill to establish free-trade in corn has been introduced to the Portuguese Cortes.

Advices from Alexandria state that favourable anticipations are entertained regarding the next Egyptian cotton crop.

THE MISSIONARIES IN INDIA. — The *Bombay Gazette* states that "A petition has been prepared in

Bombay, which, after being circulated for signature, will be forwarded to the local, the supreme, and the home governments, protesting against the present aggressive attitude of the missionaries in India in the matter of secular education."

SALMON IN AUSTRALIA. — Mr. James A. Youl communicates the substance of a telegram from his friend, Mr. Edward Wilson, to the effect that the salmon ova, by the Norfolk, arrived safely at Melbourne, and had been transmitted to Tasmania. They were showing signs of life in the breeding-ponds of the River Plenty.

HORSE-RACING IN FRANCE. — Our gay neighbours on the other side of the Channel are reported to have gone into transports because a French horse has won a race on a French course. When Vermouth gained the grand prize, the Emperor, who, it had been remarked, seemed to take but little interest in the races, "exhibited a most immense outburst of enthusiasm," and the people passed before him in sections, cheering vociferously.

QUEEN POMARE. — A letter from Tahiti to the 5th March says:—"Queen Pomare has returned to Papeti from a visit to her daughter Teroimaevanu, Queen of Borobora Island. She has brought back with her several princes and princesses of her family. The Queen was received with all honour by the French and Tahitian authorities on landing, and was saluted with twenty-one guns. The frigate Sibylle left Tahiti on the 19th February for Rio Janeiro on her return to France. Before her departure the Queen visited the ship and dined on board."

THE PRUSSIAN LOSSES IN THE LATE CAMPAIGN.

—The total loss of the Prussian troops during the late campaign is calculated from official sources at 116 officers, 218 sub-officers, 46 bandmen, and 1,592 privates killed and wounded, with 9 officers and 117 sub-officers, bandmen, and privates taken prisoners. More than half the latter are cavalry, the 8th Hussars in particular having contributed a large proportion. Five of the captured officers and many of the men are included in the number of the wounded. 28 officers were killed in action or died immediately after of their wounds, consisting of 1 major-general (Von Raven), 2 majors (Von Jena and Von Beeren), 3 captains, 4 first-lieutenants, and 18 second-lieutenants. The total Prussian loss may be broadly estimated at 120 officers, and about 1,800 men.

THE RAMS QUESTION IN FRANCE. — The question of allowing vessels of war to be built in France for the Confederate States of America has for some time past engaged the attention of the Imperial Government. By direction of the agents of the Confederates, four vessels of war, to be armed with twelve or fourteen guns each, were built at Bordeaux and Nantes, by M. Armon, and in due time the permission of the French Government was given to arm the vessels, upon the representation that they were to be employed in the Chinese seas. Information of this fact having reached the Paris agents of the United States, they procured evidence that the vessels were intended for the Government of the Southern States, and this was laid before the French authorities. It is not known whether the seizure of the vessels has been demanded by the United States Government, but they are not able to leave France, and it is thought they will eventually be disposed of according to the decisions of the law. The detention of the vessels is referred to in proof of the determination of the French Government to maintain the strictest neutrality with respect to the American war.

ANTI-ENGLISH FEELING IN GERMANY. — In various parts of Germany a movement is being set on foot to exclude all articles of English manufacture from the German market. At Itzehoe a meeting of delegates from several towns and districts in Schleswig-Holstein is about to take place, with a view to concert measures for cutting off all trade with Britain. The press supports the movement, which it describes as an attempt to attack England on her "Achilles' heel" and only available point, which lies in her commerce. In Lubeck the inhabitants have, according to the *Lubeck Gazette*, commenced signing a solemn pledge "never more to buy any article of English manufacture they can possibly help." It is a lamentable proof of the ignorance prevailing in Germany of the English character and the resources and extent of British trade, that by this silly, childish movement, which will injure Germans alone, it is expected to inspire England with the same convictions and opinions as Germany holds on the Schleswig-Holstein question! An otherwise very intelligent German a few days back expressed to me his firm conviction, which he only shared with thousands of his fellow-countrymen, that the cessation of the trade between England and Germany would irretrievably ruin the former country, while it would only be a benefit to the latter. Why have Germans such a prejudice against the principles of John Stuart Mill, Ricardo, and Adam Smith?—*Correspondent of Morning Star*.

HUDSON, THE RAILWAY KING. — As a matter of rumour, some of our contemporaries state that Mr. Hudson, the ex-railway King, has again become wealthy. As a matter of fact, we may mention that, only a few weeks ago, an effort was being privately made in Sunderland to raise him as much money as would buy him an annuity.—*Durham Chronicle*. The *Sunderland Herald* re-affirms the report, adding that he has received 60,000*l.*, and that his friends are inclined to put him forward to contest the borough in the Conservative interest in the event of a general election.

MR. LAWSON'S PERMISSIVE BILL.

On Monday evening a crowded meeting was held in Exeter-hall, under the auspices of the United Kingdom Alliance for the Suppression of the Traffic in Intoxicating Liquors, to pass resolutions in favour of Mr. Lawson's Permissive Bill, which comes on for second reading this day; Lord Calthorpe in the chair. In opening the proceedings his lordship briefly explained to the meeting the objects of the bill, which are to enable the ratepayers of any parish or township to forbid the sale of intoxicating liquors within their district by the vote of a two-thirds majority. As yet the Government had done but little towards mitigating the evils attending the sale of intoxicating drinks, and he thought it behoved every one to join with him in supporting this admirable measure. The first resolution, to the effect that it was the opinion of the meeting that the common sale of intoxicating liquors was productive of innumerable evils and antagonistic to national progress, and that it was the duty of all classes to endeavour to abolish a system so productive of bad results, was moved by the Rev. W. N. Molesworth, of Rochdale, who said that, although it was impossible to make men sober and virtuous by Act of Parliament, it was easy for the Legislature, by unsound legislation, to make them more vicious than they are. The bill in question, if it passed into law, would not inflict any wrong on the community. It did not propose to sweep away public-houses, but to reform them. At present no respectable man could enter a public-house without a feeling of shame, and this was caused by the rotten state of things at present existing. The bill proposed a remedy for this by taking the power of licensing public-houses out of the hands of the magistrates and giving it to the ratepayers, who were those most interested in the matter. If it passed, the inhabitants of any neighbourhood would be able to take away the license of any publican who did not conduct his business in a proper manner. Those who of all others suffered most by the present state of matters were the labouring classes, who were compelled to use such places for purposes of refreshment, shelter, or social converse. He could speak with authority of the sentiments of the working classes of Lancashire with respect to those evils, having laboured among them constantly during the last quarter of a century. He believed if the power to do so were placed in the hands of the working men, they would not only support this bill, but a Maine Liquor Law Bill too, if it were brought forward. The rev. gentleman then gave an account of a number of meetings that had been held in favour of the bill in Rochdale, and other towns of Lancashire and the north of England. The resolution was seconded by Mr. Clegg, who gave a short autobiography of himself, and an account of his labours in the cause of teetotalism in Lancashire. Mr. Lawson, M.P., the introducer of the bill, in conjunction with Mr. Bazley, then rose to speak in favour of the motion, and was received with loud cheers. He said it gave him great pleasure to accept the invitation of the committee to attend that evening, and explain the provisions of the bill, which were to allow the inhabitants of any parish to shut any public-house that was not properly conducted, provided a majority of two-thirds agreed upon the question. He must confess he was surprised to find that the House of Commons looked very coldly on the bill. He could only account for it by the fact that the assembly of which he had the honour to be a member was not elected by the working classes of England. The only means they had of reaching the ears of the House was by meetings like the present. In case the bill did not pass, he begged of them not to be cast down, but to hold meeting after meeting, and sign petition after petition, until this bill, or a similar one, became law. The resolution was then put by the chairman and carried almost unanimously, one unfortunate person near the door holding his hand up against it. This was the signal for a tremendous uproar, which was with great difficulty quelled by the chairman. When order was once more restored, Mr. Samuel Pope rose to propose the second resolution, that in the opinion of the meeting the provisions of the bill were perfectly compatible with all the claims of justice and legitimate commerce, and that every constitutional effort should be made to procure its adoption by the Legislature. He said that he was delighted to see so large a meeting, and he only wished they had had more members of Parliament present to show them that, as far as Exeter-hall could be filled with them, the working classes were in favour of the bill. He could not agree with Mr. Lawson in his veneration for the House of Commons, as far as he could judge of it from the outside, and he thought that gentleman deserved the greatest praise for his courage and honesty in bringing forward a bill which was almost certain to be thrown out. After the first reading, Captain Jervis had announced his intention of moving an amendment against it at its second reading on Wednesday (this day), but he had been informed that this duty had since been taken by Mr. Roebuck, who had shown himself so determined an opponent of Mr. Somes's Bill. If the bill did not pass he warned them not to be discouraged, but to remember how often the Anti-Corn Law Bill was thrown out before it was made law. The passing of the bill was not a matter of mere enthusiasm, but of hard work, and it was by meetings like the present, held again and again, that their representatives should be encouraged. If they only followed out the earnest sentiments they had expressed that evening, the pressure from without would soon gain the victory for them. With regard to the justice of the proposed scheme, he thought from the publicans' point of view that they would greatly benefit by it. Instead of being submitted to the caprice of a room full of magistrates, their licenses would be given or withheld by the voice of the people. As to the question of the Government interfering with trade, he held it was their duty to do so when injury to the community was the result of non-interference. He looked on the present meeting as the means of showing the Government what the people wanted,—namely, the power of deciding for themselves whether the traffic in intoxicating drinks should be continued or not. He concluded by once more begging them not to be discouraged if the bill were thrown out on Wednesday, but to meet and petition again and again until Parliament passed the measure. Mr. Washington Wilks seconded the resolution in a speech commending the intentions of the bill. He reminded the audience that this was not a teetotal or Sabbatarian question, but one which affected the welfare of the

community at large. The motion having been passed, a resolution adopting a petition to both Houses of Parliament was put and carried, and the proceedings terminated.

Postscript.

Wednesday, June 8, 1864.

AMERICA.

(Per the Hibernian, *vid* Greencastle.)

NEW YORK, May 27 (Afternoon).

Despatches from General Grant up till yesterday morning state that his movement was progressing, and the result would be manifest in twenty-four hours. General Lee's position covers Sexton's Junction, his right resting on Little Swamp and his left on Little River. The Federals have abandoned their depot at Fredericksburg and Aquia Creek, and have established another nearer to General Grant.

General Mosby has completely destroyed the bridges and blockhouses from Union Mills to the Rapidan. The withdrawal of the Federal outposts around Washington enabled him to do so.

The Confederates have commenced firing from the banks of the James River on General Butler's supply boats.

General Banks has arrived at New Orleans.

The Federals are evacuating Texas.

General Sherman has flanked General Johnstone's position at Albuena on the Ellowah River. It is reported that Johnstone will not fight, but transfer his troops to General Lee.

NEW YORK, May 28 (Morning).

Pope is marching from the South-West with 6,000 men to operate in the Shenandoah Valley.

The capture of the blockade steamers Granite City and Wave, off Sabine Pass, has been confirmed.

The Tariff Bill has been reported to Congress. The duty upon brandy will be 2 dols. 50c. per gallon, and on other spirits 2 dols. Silks are to pay an *ad valorem* duty of 60 per cent. Tea, 25c. per lb.; woollen goods, 20c. per lb.

NEW YORK, May 28 (Evening).

In the absence of any direct intelligence from the army, unreliable rumours of a disaster to Butler have been circulated. It is also reported that Grant is moving towards the Peninsula.

Money easy. Gold was sold to-day at 190; its actual quotation is 88 per cent. prem. Exchange on London, 207. Stocks steady.

(FROM THE "TIMES" CORRESPONDENT.)

(Per the Hibernian.)

NEW YORK, May 27.

The only intelligence to-day from Grant's army is a statement by Secretary Stanton that there were important movements yesterday morning, which cannot be made public.

May 28.

Many unfavourable reports from the Army of the Potomac, which cannot be traced to authentic sources, raised the premium on gold to 89½ at 2 30 this afternoon. At the close of business the premium was 88. Cotton, 104c.

(Per the City of London.)

NEW YORK, May 28 (11 A.M.).

Nothing official was received from Grant yesterday. The accounts from correspondents, which are to noon of the 25th, are contradictory. Some assert that General Grant's whole army was three miles south of the North Anna River, and in possession of the Virginia Central Railway, and Lee within one mile of the South Anna; others as positively declare that Hancock is still north of the North Anna, prevented from crossing by Lee, who holds a strong position between the river and the railway.

The Federals evacuated Fredericksburg and Aquia Creek on the 26th. Grant's base of supplies is transferred to Tappahannock, on the Rappahannock. His wounded are conveyed to Port Royal, on the same river.

Butler's despatches of the 26th announce all quiet at Bermuda Hundred.

The War Department is still without official news from Sherman later than the 22nd.

The iron-clad attack upon the forts in Charleston harbour on the 15th was without result.

The delegates to the Union State Conventions of New York, Ohio, and Illinois, held during the past week, have unanimously resolved to renominate Mr. Lincoln at the Baltimore Convention.

LATEST CONTINENTAL NEWS.

The *Constitutionnel* of last evening professes to have hopes that the friends of what it calls moderation at any price will not be deceived in the results of the Conference, and that we shall not see the war recommence. In confirmation of this assertion, we observe that a telegram from Vienna reports that Austria and Prussia are not unwilling to waive their demand for the drawing of the frontier line at Apenrade. News from Vienna also confirms the reports that the German plenipotentiaries agreed at the last sitting of the Conference to accept *ad referendum* the proposal for a fortnight's prolongation of the armistice. Nevertheless it is worthy of notice that several Austrian men-of-war have received orders to leave the Adriatic in order to join the squadron in the North Sea.

King George I. has arrived from Athens in Corfu. The people received him with immense enthusiasm, and a "Te Deum" was chanted in the cathedral.

The statement that the Peruvian Government are ready to make all the concessions which Spain desires has been emphatically denied by the Peruvian Consul at Bordeaux. He characterises the assertion, which was conveyed by a Madrid telegram, as utterly unfounded.

YESTERDAY'S PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Lords last night the Bishop of Oxford brought in a bill respecting the celebration of Divine service in collegiate schools and colleges. It was read a first time.

The Union Assessment Committee Act Amendment Bill was read a third time after a brief discussion.

PENAL SERVITUDE.

The House went into committee on the Penal Servitude Acts Amendment Bill. On clause 2 Earl GREY moved the addition of words which would have the effect of giving to offenders previously convicted a minimum sentence of seven instead of five years' penal servitude. Earl GRANVILLE opposed the amendment, which was supported by Lord CRANWORTH. Earl GRANVILLE yielded, and the clause as amended was agreed to. On clause 4, Lord HOUGHTON moved its omission, on the ground that it provided a police espionage which would destroy the possibility of a discharged criminal earning an honest livelihood. A discussion ensued; but eventually, on a division, the clause was retained by 49 votes to 41. On the motion of Lord PORTMAN, the provisions of the clause were made to refer to males only, and the clause as thus amended was agreed to. The other clauses were also agreed to.

The other orders were disposed of, and the House adjourned at ten minutes past eight o'clock.

DISCRIMINATING DUTIES.

In the House of Commons Mr. LINDSAY moved for correspondence with the Governments of France, Spain, and Portugal, in reference to the abrogation of the discriminating duties levied on British ships trading with those countries. France, he was glad to say, had ordered a commission of inquiry into the subject, and perhaps the President of the Board of Trade would be able to tell them what had been done by that commission. Mr. MILNER GIBSON consented to produce the correspondence. He agreed with everything that the hon. gentleman had said as to the beneficial effects of the repeal of the navigation laws. He thought the French Commission had not yet made its report. Mr. W. E. FORSTER hoped the correspondence would be speedily published. The motion was then agreed to.

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS.

Mr. CAIRD moved a resolution declaring the collection and early publication of the agricultural statistics of Great Britain to be desirable. He did not wish to bind the House to any particular plan of collection. It was objected that the police could not be employed in this country. He had suggested the instrumentality of the Registrar-General, and it was found that the work could be done by that department at a cost of 15,000l. a year, which he did not think too much to pay for the information. There was, however, another plan, which had been successfully tried for two years in Scotland. It was that the returns should be obtained by means of the maps of the Ordnance survey, and under the direction of the Ordnance surveyors. As the survey was not, however, complete in England, he proposed at first to take special districts—say ten in England and five in Scotland—making altogether 1,600,000 acres. Colonel BARTHELOT and Mr. PACKE opposed the motion. Mr. PAGET supported it, as did Mr. DENT, Mr. HUBBARD, and Lord NAAS. It was opposed by Lord HOTHAM. Mr. GIBSON believed the plan proposed to be impracticable, and he moved the previous question. After some further discussion, Mr. CAIRD'S motion was carried by 74 votes to 62.

ACT OF UNIFORMITY.

Mr. BOUVIER rose to move that this House will resolve itself into a committee to consider certain portions of the Act of Uniformity. He said, as he understood that his resolution was not likely to meet with opposition in the present stage, he would not detain the House by many remarks. He wished to remind the House of the origin of this bill. It had not originated in any hostility to the Universities, or the Church as connected with the Universities, but with a certain number of gentlemen practically interested in the education of the University of Cambridge. Finding defects in the existing system, they proposed what they considered an unobjectionable remedy. The proposal was simply this—that whereas all Fellows of Colleges were required at present to make a declaration of their conformity to the Liturgy of the Church of England, that requirement should be repealed, and it should be left to the colleges themselves to make such provision in that respect as might to them seem best in the interest of the colleges and the University. The requirements of the Act of Uniformity were but of comparatively little importance until about ten years ago, when the University Acts were passed, because at Cambridge no degree could be taken without a declaration that the person taking it belonged to the Church of England, and consequently no one could be admitted as a student unless he signed the Thirty-nine Articles. Having taken this test, it was comparatively immaterial to take a simpler and milder one. But by the University Acts of 1854 and 1856 degrees might be taken in Oxford and Cambridge without any religious tests whatever, and the consequence was that persons entered the Colleges and received education there who were unable to take this test required by the Act of Uniformity. It was true that with respect to most colleges—three or four at Cambridge and one at Oxford excepted—the alteration he proposed would make no difference in the existing state of things, because, with the exceptions he had just mentioned, one of the conditions of fellowship was that the Fellow should be a member of the Church of England; but the reason why he asked the House to consent to the Bill was because it was a proposal really to give freedom to the Colleges and to avoid Parliamentary interference. The existence of that clause in the Act of Uniformity

was an interference with the freedom of those great educational establishments. It was unjustifiable in its origin, as well as in its retention. He did not ask the House to interfere with the free action of the colleges in this matter, or to force them to choose Fellows to whom they objected on religious or other grounds. All that he asked was that the Colleges might be left to do their best for their respective bodies, and for the interests of the Church and Universities, without interference on the part of Parliament. He did not think that such a request could be justly designated, as it had been on a previous occasion, as an attack on the Church and the Universities. He would fix such a period for the second reading of the bill as would give those who were opposed to the measure a full opportunity of stating their opinions. The right hon. gentleman moved that the House resolve into a committee to consider certain portions of the Act of Uniformity.

Mr. SELWYN thought that, as a similar bill was brought in last session, it would only be consistent with courtesy and with usual practice to offer no opposition now to the introduction of the measure; but the objections to such a bill which had been expressed by many hon. members, and by himself among the number, were not in any degree lessened, and he thought what had fallen from the right hon. gentleman that evening would tend, if anything, to increase them. It must be apparent that the bill would not give religious liberty to the colleges, but would introduce religious discord.

The House then resolved into a committee on certain portions of the Act of Uniformity, and a resolution on which to found a bill being agreed to, the House resumed, and leave was given for the introduction of a bill to repeal certain portions of the Act of Uniformity.

Some other measures having been introduced the House was counted out at a quarter to eight.

THE PERMISSIVE BILL.—Yesterday Lord Palmerston received a numerous deputation from the United Kingdom Alliance. The interview took place at his lordship's residence in Piccadilly; and the object of the deputation was to solicit his lordship to support the second reading of Mr. Lawson's and Mr. Baxley's Intoxicating Liquors Bill in the House of Commons to-day. The deputation was headed by Lord Calthorpe, and consisted of fifty-one gentlemen, including Messrs. B. Whitworth, T. Clegg, Councillor Thompson, G. B. Addison, S. Pope, J. H. Raper, and T. H. Barker of Manchester; W. Saunderson, of Plymouth; J. Guest, of Rotherham; G. Tatham, of Leeds; W. H. Higginbottom, of Bolton; W. Hoyle, of Bury; Edward Whitwell, of Kendal; W. J. Clegg and Joseph Pearson, of Sheffield; W. Campbell, H. Dyson, and G. Ward, of Leeds; the Revs. the Hon. Leland Noel, Canon Jenkins, W. N. Molesworth, of Rochdale; Dr. Burns, Dawson Burns, J. S. Workman, and S. Schnadhorst; Professor Newman, and several gentlemen connected with the metropolis. Having been introduced by Lord Calthorpe, whom Lord Palmerston recognised and shook heartily by the hand, Mr. Pope stated the object of the deputation, and presented to his lordship a memorial, representing that there was a strong feeling against the present licensing system, and a prevalent conviction that strong drink was an exceptional article of trade, that many landowners had stopped the sale of it on their estates; and that agitation had proved that the people were prepared for the Intoxicating Liquors Bill, which the memorialists prayed Lord Palmerston and the Government to support. Mr. Pope was followed by the Rev. W. N. Molesworth, who spoke for the manufacturing districts; Mr. Saunders, of Plymouth; Mr. Tatham, of Leeds; Professor Newman, the Rev. H. Gale, and Mr. Raper. Lord Palmerston listened to all with marked attention and evident interest, and elicited several pertinent explanations; and on retiring the deputation thanked his lordship for the courtesy and consideration which had been extended to them.

DREADFUL ACCIDENT TO AN ASCOT TRAIN.—A frightful accident happened on the South-Western Railway at Egham last evening. The ordinary 7 p.m. train from Ascot had been delayed, in consequence, it is said, of several gentlemen insisting on leaving the train on account of the card-sharps and blacklegs who were travelling in it. At last it moved, but was scarcely in motion when an express from Ascot dashed into it with tremendous force. The collision was very violent, owing to the immense weight of the following train. It crushed the guard's van to splinters, crushed a second-class carriage next to it, and partly crushed another beyond. The usual scene of confusion and dismay succeeded. Assistance was at once telegraphed for to London and to Ascot, and the work of succouring those injured instantly began. There was a horrible scene beneath the ruins of the broken-up second-class carriage. From out of the wreck the bodies of four gentlemen were removed. A fifth died as he was being carried to the bank, and a sixth was so injured as to leave, last night, almost no hopes whatever of recovery. About twenty-five other passengers were found to have sustained injuries, such as concussions, dislocations, and broken bones. But even the more serious of these, it is to be hoped, will not be likely to prove fatal, as, with the exception mentioned, all, it is stated by the railway authorities, were in the course of last night enabled to come up to town and either proceed to their own homes or were taken to the hospitals. About twenty-five passengers thus came to Waterloo, all more or less alarmed and shaken, many weak and faint, and with their clothes covered with blood. Three of the bodies were identified. Mr. Clegg, a licensed victualler, the landlord of the Harp, Jermyn-street; Mr. Cockerell, the clerk or confidential agent of Mr. Padwick, the well-known racing man; and a Mr. Winfield, who is not known, except from the direction upon a letter found in his pocket. At present there is no information as to who is to blame for the accident. The train conveying the Prince of Wales had only left the station a short time before the collision took place.

MARK-LANE.—THIS DAY.

The supply of English wheat on sale here to-day was moderate. Both for red and white qualities, the trade ruled quiet; nevertheless, selected parcels supported Monday's currency. The market was moderately supplied with foreign wheat. In nearly all descriptions, sales progressed slowly, yet prices ruled stationary. Floating cargoes of grain were in slow request, at late rates.

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The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 1864.

SUMMARY.

THE London Conference on the Danish question sat on Thursday and Monday, and the English as well as foreign journals give some hints and abundant speculations as to its proceedings. What seems to be probable is that the armistice will be prolonged for a fortnight; that the division of Schleswig has been accepted in principle by each of the belligerents; and that the difference between them is narrowed to a territory some twenty miles in breadth, claimed respectively by Denmark and Germany. If, as a telegram from Vienna indicates, Austria and Prussia will not insist on the frontier line of Apenrade, considerable progress has been made towards an arrangement, by an abatement of the unwarrantable pretensions of the victorious Germans. Austria, jealous of her great ally, is rather disposed, it appears, to play off the pretensions of the Oldenburg family to the sovereignty of the Duchies against those of the Augustenburg Prince, who has abandoned his visit to Vienna. This rivalry may be ultimately advantageous to the cause of Denmark in the Conference.

The cession of the Ionian Islands to Greece has been effected. On the 1st inst. the Greek flag was hoisted on the remaining forts of Corfu, amid great popular rejoicings, and on the 6th, King George paid a visit to his new subjects, and of course received an enthusiastic welcome. The Lord High Commissioner (Sir H. Storks) took leave of the islanders, whom he has found so unmanageable, in a conciliatory and dignified address, in which he was able to say with something of pride that the Queen of England, in surrendering the protectorate, "and in promoting the union of these islands with Greece, has been solely actuated by the desire to give effect to a wish so often expressed by the Ionian Legislative Assembly, and the realisation of which is considered by the people, both of these islands and of continental Greece, as conducive to national happiness." The wishes of the Ionians have been freely complied with, as the Vice-President of the Senate said, in a spirit of justice and true liberality, and mutual good feeling and respect have been elicited by an act which, whether or not it gives "contentment to the people of the Ionian Islands," and "increased strength and prosperity to the Hellenic Kingdom," will ever redound to the glory of England, and form a precedent which some Continental Sovereigns might wisely follow.

The Maori insurgents of New Zealand have again been defeated, but not without inflicting heavy losses on their assailants, and with no apparent prospect of their submission. Driven from their strong position at Mangataniwha, they have retreated further into the difficult Waikato country, and seem disposed to carry on a harassing guerilla warfare, in which they are no doubt encouraged by the summary confiscation measures of the New Zealand Government. So far as at present appears, the struggle may still be indefinitely prolonged.

In another column we have referred in detail to the military news from the other side of the Atlantic, and the respective positions of the belligerents. Both Federals and Confederates freely admit the vital importance of the conflict between Grant and Lee, and though English writers maintain that the fall of Richmond would scarcely impair the power of resistance on the part of the South, the principal newspaper of that city predicts that "if Virginia is lost the present Confederate organisation will not

probably survive." To what extent Lee has been reinforced after his heavy losses in Spottsylvania is not stated, but Grant has been so strengthened by the garrison of Washington, and all available troops from the West, as to possess a larger army than when he first crossed the Rapidan. If the Federals lost 60,000 men in the late bloody conflict—one half their entire force—as the *Times* asserts, how is it that Grant has been able to continue to act on the offensive? As some 20,000 killed and wounded Federals have been conveyed to Washington, it is probable that the Northern losses have not exceeded 30,000 men, and that the Confederates have at least equally suffered. While the military struggle is proceeding, the Presidential contest has begun in the North. Mr. Lincoln has been re-nominated by the conventions of the important States of New York, Ohio, and Illinois, but his chances of success seem to depend upon the issue of the campaign.

The enforced retirement of Mr. William Johnson Fox from public life two or three years since has terminated in the event of which such withdrawals are too often the premonition. Mr. Fox died on Saturday last. He was a self-made man, and in many respects one of the best self-made men that we have known. Beginning life as a weaver's boy, he passed successfully through nearly all the stages of a public career. He was one of the best speakers engaged in the work of the Anti-Corn Law League; one of the most consistent of political and ecclesiastical reformers. In character he was disinterested and generous; his sympathies were broad and very human; his intellect rich and clear; and his aim never, consciously, other than lofty. His oratorical style was to us peculiarly attractive; Mr. Fox ascending sometimes to a very high order of eloquence. On these occasions he could play with intellectual truths with the strength of a giant, and at the same time, with all the grace of a woman. He did great service in his day to many unpopular causes. His theological sympathies detracted, no doubt, in some measure, from his public influence; but those sympathies were very truthful in their nature, and Mr. Fox, as member for Oldham, gained a position of great respect in the House of Commons, where he was listened to with a very marked attention. The loss of his service is a loss to all. We have missed for some years his antique Puritanic figure, and now he will be seen no more. His nearly eighty years of life have included more years of honest patriotic labour than are often included even in that long human span.

GENERAL LEE'S SECOND RETREAT.

GENERAL LEE has once more retreated. His army, at the latest date from the field, occupied a strong position in front of Sexton's junction, between the North and South Anna Rivers, and within forty miles of Richmond. Of course it will be assumed by the English newspapers sympathising with the South, that Lee moved away from Spottsylvania Court House, as he withdrew from the Wilderness, of choice, not of necessity—for "strategic reasons"—to lure his adversary further away from the base of his communications, in order that when the fitting opportunity shall arrive, he may inflict upon him irreparable disaster. How far the theory will accord with the facts, a short statement will enable our readers to judge.

From the 12th of May to the 7th both armies remained in a state of inaction. The heavy rains, the impracticable state of the roads, the necessity for repose after several days of hard fighting, and the efforts made to get up reinforcements, compelled a pause. On the last-mentioned date the roads were sufficiently dried to be available, and General Grant had received a considerable accession of strength, amounting, it is said, to 25,000 men. On the 18th, accordingly, he resolved to probe his opponent's position. General Hancock was directed to advance against what turned out to be Lee's left wing. He carried the rifle-pits in front, but finding a strong abatis before him, he retired with a loss of 800 killed and wounded. On the 19th, Lee assumed the offensive, and ordered Ewell to fall upon the right flank of the Federals, in the hope of cutting off some supply trains, and endangering Grant's lines of communication. Grant drew the inference that Lee's position must be exceedingly strong to allow of these daring attempts, and he prudently resolved not to attack him in front. He determined, therefore, to make a sweep round Lee's right. On the night of the 20th, Hancock struck eastward for a few miles towards the Fredericksburg and Richmond railway, then turned southward and reached Guinea station, six miles east of Spottsylvania Court House, and a trifle nearer than that place to Richmond. Lee, seeing that

his right was turned, and in alarm for his communications, ordered Ewell and Longstreet to march southward. But as Grant's other corps safely reached Guinea station, and Hancock was at Bowling-green by nightfall on the 21st, eighteen miles south of Fredericksburg, Lee was obliged to quit his impregnable position, and fall back upon the swampy ground north of Sexton's junction, the point at which the railways from the West and the railways from the North unite. The Federals have moved their depots from Fredericksburg and Aquia Creek to a spot in closer proximity with Grant's army, and the General's despatches on the morning of the 26th state, that his movement was progressing, and that the result would be manifest within four-and-twenty hours.

It seems to have been assumed in New York that Grant contemplates a flank march down the left bank of the North Anna River upon Hanover Court House, and fears were entertained lest Lee should seize the opportunity to attack him whilst attempting this manœuvre, and cut his army in two. Success in such an attempt on the part of Lee, it is said, would bring the campaign to a disastrous close for the Federals—failure would not worsen his position, but merely throw him back on his communications with Lynchburg, but in this case he would leave the road to Richmond open to his antagonist. We doubt, however, whether much reliance can be placed upon the strategical guesses and speculations of New York quidnuncs. They have never yet anticipated General Grant's movements, and it is hardly probable that a wary and circumspect soldier such as Grant has proved himself to be, would expose his army to destruction by a movement of the immense risk of which his critics at a distance seem to be so well aware. At any rate, Grant had been chargeable with no blunder up to the time to which our information extends—and he had compelled Lee to fall back twice from strong positions. Till the event otherwise instruct us, we see no reason for apprehending that he will throw away all his advantages by a move that would obviously place him in the power of his accomplished adversary.

No authentic information had been received at New York at the departure of the last mail respecting General Butler, who, by the latest accounts was holding his entrenchments between the James and the Appomattox rivers, and detaining General Beauregard with 23,000 men at a distance from the main army of defence. The telegram, however, tells us that, in the absence of direct intelligence, unreliable rumours of disasters to Butler have been put in circulation. We need hardly caution our readers to read with a full amount of reserve the whispered tidings of the New York Stock Exchange. It is not impossible that Beauregard may have assaulted Butler's position, for he could not be left where he was, and his presence was highly inconvenient—nor, indeed, that the Confederate general may have succeeded. But rumours of evil which can be traced to no source—as is confessedly the case with the one in question—need not excite premature alarm. They may usually be looked upon as having a closer connection with the Money Market than with fact.

As to Sherman, he is being drawn away further and further from his base of operations into the heart of Georgia. General Johnstone, if we are to accept the fashionable mode of describing Federal successes, is leading him a wonderfully profitable chase. He has cleared the difficult and mountainous district of Northern Georgia, which covers some sixty miles, and descended into the broad fertile plain beyond. Rome with its vast stores and manufactories has fallen into his hands. Johnstone has again started South—not having yet found the opportunity, we suppose, for crushing his enemy. Finally, Admiral Porter has succeeded in floating his gun-boats out of the Red River, and General Banks has led his troops in better condition than was anticipated to Semmesport, where army and gunboats were safe, and was himself, by the last accounts, at New Orleans.

As to the general issue of the present campaign, we shall not be foolish enough to hazard a prediction. Up to the present time, it is plain enough that the balance of advantage is with the Federals. No one could doubt it if the facts were fairly submitted to his judgment. But a mode of description has been adopted of late by a part of the press, which, for the time being, utterly misleads public opinion. The North may advance and the South may retreat—but it is always at the choice, and to the gain, of the latter. Northern generals are sure to be incompetent—Southern, to possess every quality which should insure victory. A sanguinary contest, followed by a retreat of the Confederates, is invariably spoken of, as a Southern victory. An advance of the Federals is merely a foolhardy adventure into unseen and unsuspected perils. All that the army of the Secessionists wins, it

wins by superior gallantry and generalship; all that it loses, it surrenders for good military reasons. Now, we see neither good sense nor justice in this perpetual effort to give to facts the colouring of unmistakeable prejudices. No one will deny that the Confederacy has fought for independence and for the "peculiar domestic institution" with obstinate valour. No reasonable man can yet presume to say that it will not succeed. That it has been well and devotedly served by officers and men cannot be gainsaid. That its generals have displayed great ability need not be denied. But neither virtue, nor valour, nor ability are monopolised by the South. It were well to bear this in mind, and to accept incontestable facts when they come to hand, even when the tenour of them is in favour of Northern progress.

PROGRESS OF THE DANO-GERMAN QUESTION.

WITH Saturday next, the period agreed upon for the suspension of hostilities between Denmark and the German Powers will expire. The Conference now sitting have not succeeded as yet in settling an extension of it. Two propositions relating to the matter are before it—one embodying the wishes of the German Powers—the other representing the mind of Denmark. Prussia and Austria, being in possession of all that they want, think it desirable to prolong the armistice for three months. They might, during that interval, develop a party strength in Schleswig to which they might confidently appeal in support of their desire to annex the whole of that province, or, at any rate, the greater part of it, to Germany. They might reckon upon the weariness of the neutral Powers before the expiration of that term to yield what now they are disposed to withhold. Or, in the event of a resumption of warlike operations, they might rely upon the near approach of winter to paralyse the naval superiority of the Danes. Denmark, on the other hand, demands that the cessation of hostilities shall not be prolonged beyond a fortnight, unless a basis of peace be meantime resolved upon. She foresees the disadvantage to which she will be exposed, if the German Powers have three months' leisure to practise upon the theatre of the Duchies, and play with the apprehensions of Europe. She has given a pledge of her own sincerity, and of her readiness to make sacrifices, in order to peace—but she would prefer to risk whatever might be turned up by the chapter of accidents, to being made the sport of Prussia for three months to come, and then to find herself in a worse position than she occupies at present.

It would seem that the London Treaty of 1852 has been given up as impracticable, and that the big words spoken and written by Lord Palmerston and the Foreign Secretary about the necessity of maintaining the integrity of the Danish monarchy had better be forgotten as soon as possible. Our aged but restless Premier has at length discovered that he cannot command events. No doubt he was sincere when he threatened that in case the wholeness of Denmark as a European State was put in peril, she would not be left to stand alone. But the noble lord when he volunteered this pledge could not foresee that France would, at the moment when action was required, be disinclined to give effect to the menaces of Great Britain; that Russia would desire to gratify her co-partners in the oppression of Poland; that the people of this country would evince strong repugnance to go to war in a quarrel the merits of which they could not understand, and the success of which would only impose upon an insignificant population a rule which they detested; or that the Sovereign of the country should hesitate to set different members of her own family at variance in order to uphold a treaty which the noble lord had had a chief hand in framing and negotiating. It was a matter of course that Lord Palmerston should stand by the indestructibility of his own handiwork, and, for the time being, count the sufferings of his countrymen nothing in comparison of the upsetting of his own scheme of policy. But events have taught him better. He could not go to war. It was too senseless a step to allow of the possibility of his taking it. The German Powers took advantage of his helplessness. They have torn his treaty to shreds, the other European Powers calmly witnessing, and, if not abetting, making no objection to, the deed. All that ingenuity and perseverance, and, we may add, bluster could do to save the Treaty of 1852, the noble lord has done. But he has failed. The success of the Conference could not be hoped for on this basis. Poor little Denmark has been misadvised. Her heroism has been in vain. And so, in conjunction with France, Great Britain has recommended a scheme of pacifica-

tion which has not the London Treaty for its basis, nor the integrity of Denmark for its object.

We do not blame the noble lord for yielding. On the contrary, we think the proposals made to the Conference by the neutral Powers the wisest which the circumstances would admit of—and if pressed before the war, instead of after it, would have been an unexceptionable settlement of a perplexing international question. We do not mean to offer the slightest justification of Austria and Prussia as to their mode of conducting their dispute with Denmark. They have over acted, if possible, the part of the wolf in the fable, and have sought to cover the grossest violence under the most shameless hypocrisy. But it does not follow from thence that it was a good arrangement for Denmark, nor a just one for the inhabitants of the Duchies, nor a hopeful one for European peace, that the political tie which bound Schleswig and Holstein to the Danish monarchy should be preserved at all risks, and in the face of every objection—and Lord Palmerston's mistake has been his attempt to make diplomacy override all considerations of reason, justice and policy. We think it a fortunate circumstance that he has failed—and we are supremely thankful that he found himself unable to get up a European war on a question so barren of political interest to England and the world.

We understand that Denmark has signified her assent to the principle embodied in the proposition of the neutral Powers—namely, that Holstein and the German part of Schleswig shall be united to the German Confederation, and that the Danish part of Schleswig shall be incorporated with the Danish kingdom. But she gives her assent to this dismemberment, on the condition that the Powers will guarantee an equitable and final settlement of the question on that basis. The result, we are told, is that "all the neutral Powers, and one of the belligerents, are now virtually in accord as to the main terms of peace." The fact explains and justifies the peremptory demand of Denmark to limit the prolongation of the truce to a fortnight unless a basis of peace shall be agreed to in the interval. We hope, also, it renders more likely than seemed to the public, a successful issue to the present negotiations. The proposals have been referred by the plenipotentiaries to their respective Governments. The decision rests with the German Powers, and must be made one way or the other before the end of the week. Denmark has once more put herself in the right. Her Government, disregarding the clamours for war at Copenhagen, have dared to make a sacrifice in the interests of European peace. If the war should be resumed, Prussia will be responsible for it. But she has now to face, not England alone, but all the neutral Powers represented in Conference. Our conviction is that she will shrink from exposing herself to their disapprobation—and that the close of the week will bring with it the termination of the Dano-German dispute, leaving only the details of an abiding peace to be negotiated hereafter.

NOTES OF THE SESSION.

THE past week has been one of the most interesting of the Session, apart from the admirable debate and exciting division of Wednesday last, which is dealt with separately elsewhere. On Thursday the Commons sat till 1.20 a.m.; on Friday they did not rise before 2 a.m.; and on Monday they were counted out at 1.45 a.m.; and during these weary hours our octogenarian Premier is understood to be present either in a waking or sleeping mood. The Lords have also somewhat waked up from their ordinary state of torpor, and have discussed two measures at least of considerable public importance, although, if report speaks truly, the attendance of peers seldom rises beyond the limits of a select vestry-meeting.

The Education question came before the Lower House on Thursday in a double shape. First Mr. Adderley, whose defection on this subject is to be deplored, moved a resolution declaring dissatisfaction with the minute of the Privy Council Office, which modifies a former minute withholding grants to schools which had permanent endowments. The new plan proposes that in schools, the average attendance of which does not exceed 100 children, an endowment up to 6s. for each scholar may be enjoyed without any deduction being made from the grant. By this means a saving of about 30,000*l.* a-year is likely to be effected, and public money will be prevented from being squandered. Mr. Adderley and his friends, with much foolish talk about "spoliation" and "confiscation," propose to lay down a rule that in no instance should a grant be given of a greater amount than would make the aggregate sum formed of fees, subscriptions, endowment, and grant, more than 30*s.* per head in any school. Mr. Walter, who blames the Govern-

ment for conceding anything to clamour on this question, justly spoke of Mr. Adderley's proposal as making these endowments a lever in the hands of managers for extracting money out of the pockets of the public which they must pay in the shape of grant, while managers who had no endowments, and, therefore, not the same means of paying certificated teachers, enjoyed no such advantage. The argument of those gentlemen was—"We will tax you by means of our endowments. We will compel the Government to respect those endowments, and we will put our hands into your pockets." Mr. Bruce, who has succeeded Mr. Lowe at the Privy Council Office, though less decided in his tone than Mr. Walter, defended the new minute, and the amendment was rejected by 119 to 111—the Ministerial members testifying by cheers their surprise at having obtained even a majority of eight. But vested interests are not so easily defeated, and Sir J. Pakington threatens to reopen the question on a future day.

The protracted contest and manoeuvres relative to the form of the proposed committee to inquire into the mutilated inspectors' reports was brought to a close the same evening. The question was whether there should be a public committee or a committee of five to deal with the matter judicially, and thus exclude Mr. Lowe's accusers. The latter proposal, suggested by Mr. Clay, was, after considerable opposition, agreed to—two assessors being added, who may speak but not vote. The result is, that the inquiry which the Opposition are anxious to make into the general conduct of the Privy Council officials is cushioned, and Mr. Lowe, who needed no vindication, will be whitewashed, in lieu of being reinstated in office, from which he was driven by an unjust vote.

On Friday the Chancellor of the Exchequer, *apropos* of a proposal to increase the pay of masters in the navy, was obliged to read the House a severe lecture on extravagance, after this fashion:—"He believed he was correct in saying that for every hour spent during the present Parliament in attempting to check or restrain any proposal of the Government for public expenditure, ten, twenty, and more hours had been spent by members in endeavouring to force upon the Government increased expenditure. He did not think it was possible for the same assembly to be efficient in the two functions—the one controlling the Government in the public expenditure, and the other urging them to increase that expenditure." He then showed that Sir L. Palk's *protégés* had no special claim to consideration, and the abashed baronet was obliged to withdraw his motion.

But on Monday the Commons were in a severely economical mood, while the Government were on the side of needless expenditure. We have already stated that, in defiance of the oft-expressed opinion of the House, and indeed of express pledges, the Ministers of the Crown had resolved to find a new home for the National Gallery, and hand over "the finest site in Europe" to the Royal Academy. Accordingly, on Monday, Mr. Cowper proposed a vote of 10,000*l.*, an instalment of the 152,000*l.* to be expended in erecting a new National Gallery on the Burlington estate. The supporters of the vote, Lord Palmerston in particular—who on this occasion was unable to extort a cheer, but provoked several "Oh, Oh's"—maintained that this was a most economical proposition, and that as the National Gallery was not suited for its purpose "an immense expenditure" would be necessary to rebuild it. It was now "the resort of loungers and idlers," its architecture was execrable, and to rebuild it in a suitable style would cost nearer a million than 500,000*l.* The House listened with great impatience to this special pleading, looked in vain for any explanation of the reason why the national site and building in Trafalgar Square were to be handed over to a wealthy art corporation which only opened its doors to the public three months in the year, and loudly applauded Lord John Manners' analysis of the evidence of committees during the last twenty years, which went to show that the present site was the most eligible for the National Gallery, and that the building might be enlarged at a moderate expense without the necessity of buying an inch of land. Mr. Cowper again pleaded; Lord Palmerston expostulated; art members remonstrated—but all in vain. The House could not see why the Royal Academy should not manage its own business, and erect its own galleries at its own cost, nor why the nation should be victimised by a department of which Mr. Gladstone once said—"Vacillation, uncertainty, costliness, extravagance, meanness, and all the conflicting vices that could be enumerated, were united in our present system. There was a total want of authority to direct or guide—a total want of making up our minds as to what to do. He believed that such were the evils of the system that nothing short of a revolutionary reform would

ever effect a remedy." A very decisive majority of 52 (174 to 122) resolved that the National Gallery should be retained in Trafalgar-square, and that Mr. Cowper's snug arrangement to hand over public property to a private corporation should be knocked on the head. The Government, however, showed no sign of accepting this just decision, and we doubt not the battle will have to be fought over again, as it has been fought half a score of times in the last twenty years.

In the earlier part of Monday's sitting, the necessarily vague answers given by Lord Palmerston to some questions about the Conference brought about an explosion of Parliamentary feeling. Mr. Osborne, with his usual gusto, led the attack, declaring that in his belief the Conference was instituted rather to preserve the integrity of the Treasury Bench, and present the dismemberment of her Majesty's Ministers, than to maintain the integrity of Denmark. Mr. Disraeli, finding the House in the right mood, followed with a torrent of invective against a Government which, though only five months ago ready to stir up a European war in favour of Denmark, were now participating in the partition of that little State. The attack seems to have provoked Lord Palmerston all the more, as he was in the position of a combatant with his hands tied behind him. But his lordship finally refused to make any disclosures at that stage of the negotiations, and once again asked Mr. Disraeli what was his policy. Before the exciting subject was dropped, there were more fiery speeches, interlarded by some sensible remarks from Mr. Kinglake, who suggested that those who valued the peace of Europe ought rather to welcome the retirement of the Government from a position which seemed to be untenable, than to render that retirement difficult by taunting them with the words they had used at an earlier period of the Session. But what is the peace of Europe to some politicians, compared with the interests of party?

Last night, on the motion of Mr. Bouverie, the House of Commons went into Committee on the Act of Uniformity, and gave leave to bring in a Bill to abrogate the compulsory declaration required from Fellows in the Universities, and to leave the Colleges freedom to act as they please in reference to the maintenance of tests. As the proposal was only a renewal of last year's motion, no opposition was offered to the introduction of a Bill—the opposition threatened by Mr. Selwyn being reserved for a later stage.

GOING TO THE DOGS.

THE other day, a lady from the country, then on a visit to the metropolis, induced us to accompany a little party, of which she was one, to the International Dog Show, at the Agricultural Hall, Islington. We have a certain amount of liking for dogs, not by any means excessive, and subject to the condition that they are "the right animals in the right places." We do not pretend to the least scientific knowledge of dogs—and, therefore, we are not going to criticise. We can distinguish, as most of our readers can, between a bull-dog and a greyhound, a Newfoundland and a pointer, a St. Bernard and a spaniel, and we could say without hesitation which of the breeds we prefer. But we are wholly ignorant of the special marks by which "the fancy" determine purity of blood, and we cannot profess to see much value in it, even when it is unequivocally indicated. So, it will be seen at a glance, that we have nothing whatever to say about the dog-show which will be of the slightest service to fanciers.

We have said that we like dogs very well in their proper places. What is the proper place for a dog is too delicate a question to admit of off-hand treatment, and, fairly discussed, would encroach too much upon our limited space. But we can easily point out a few positions in which dogs forfeit whatever claims they may be thought to have upon reasonable regard. For instance, whilst we are writing, there stands not far off from us, and on our own premises, a little mischievous, intrusive, ill-tempered, close-haired cur, white, with a few black spots, a terrier, we believe, with just a taste of the bull-dog in his breed. He is owned by some one who lives hard by, and who appears to set a high value upon the ugly little wretch, if one may regard as evidence his being frequently taken out for a carriage-riding by the ladies of the family. There he stands, eyeing us as if speculating upon the fitness of the present opportunity to break in upon our engagement by making a sudden rush towards us, and discharging at us a volley of canine oaths as he approaches. He has apparently made up his mind to deny himself what seems to be the principal business as well as the chief pleasure of his useless existence. Perhaps he is beginning to grow weary of a kind of sport in which he has over-indulged;

inasmuch as we seldom turn out for a monthful of air into our own garden, without being accosted by this alien cur, as if he were the rightful proprietor of it, and we the intruders. The contests between us are daily, and, albeit they always end in the dog's retreat, they are daily renewed. Now, this is one example of a dog out of place. If we owned the brute, which, thank goodness, we do not, we have a notion that we should be a little uncomfortable at any obvious want of manners displayed by it towards a neighbour;—but all people are not similarly sensitive, and few appear to charge themselves with any responsibility for the annoyance inflicted upon others by their pets.

We object to recognise a dog in an omnibus, even when his owner goes bail for him that "he is as quiet as a lamb." We object to him when brought into our house by a visitor, certain as we are that he will poke his nose into corners where it is not wanted, and drag into light what was intended to be kept hidden. We object to him in his own master's parlour, at least while we are there, particularly when he is encouraged to take the most comfortable seat in the room, or to monopolise the fire by sprawling upon the rug right in front of it. We are not fond of seeing him in a lady's arms, and it stirs our bile when he is treated as a baby and kissed. To be sure, one must believe that lap-dogs were made for the purpose of enjoying the luxurious destiny which they usually realise—but we cannot help thinking that theirs is a very limited vocation, and that they were meant to draw out the affection, not of men and women in general, but only of solitary bachelors, and spinsters who are getting on the further slope of middle age, and have no near human relatives or companions. Some liberty is to be allowed them in this matter, and some excuse made for them—but, as a rule, we do not like to see dogs installed into places which normally belong to darlings of a higher class.

But, to the show. Well, after one had got reconciled to the never-ending chorus of canine vociferation, including every note in the gamut, and filling the ear with a Babel of multitudinous sounds, none of them very musical, we found a good deal of pleasure in it. The inspection of about a thousand dogs arranged in different well-marked classes, is highly suggestive. Our friend had an idea that the dogs had reversed in their own minds the true state of the case, and fancied, not that they were being exhibited to the company, but that the company was being exhibited to them. If that were the case, as appearances seemed to indicate, most of them might be thought to have answered unfavourably the query *cui bono*, and to regard the whole affair as dreadfully slow. There was a general air of bewilderment wherever you looked, as if the animals did not quite understand their new position, and would be as glad to escape it, as an audience might be to get away from a tedious speech. The poor creatures were out of their accustomed sphere, and looked as though they had lost the freshness of their individuality. Some had fairly turned tail on the visitors, and gone to sleep in sheer weariness. Others sat heavily on their haunches, and looked vacantly at what passed by them with drowsy and winking eyes. Here and there, especially among the nobler breeds, you would see individuals evidently in a brown study, no doubt philosophising on the vanity and vexation of the scene before them, and perhaps deducing from it conclusions respecting the *genus homo*, not by any means of a flattering character. But there was a touch of melancholy in almost every expression—a seeming consciousness of degradation, showing itself in every conceivable phase—resignation, endurance, disgust, reproach, sullenness, scorn, rage, desperation. We set down one good quality to our four-footed friends. They are not fond of being lionised. Praise any one of them in his own proper sphere, and he appreciates and enjoys it. But he cares nothing for general admiration. He has no taste for being set upon a pedestal that he may be the cynosure of all eyes. He hates the profane multitude. "Comparisons," too, "are odious to him." In short, the dog, to be seen at greatest advantage, should be seen at home.

What wonderful varieties of the same species! How like, yet how unlike one another! And how marvellously adapted in form, temper, size, and even garniture, to the special functions to be discharged! What speaking countenances! How aptly, how surely, the spirit that is within makes itself cognisable to those who are without! We cannot, it is true, read a dog's thoughts in his face; but we can catch every fleeting shade of emotion. He can tell us a deal about his feelings by means of his face and his tail. Dogs seem, too, to be good physiognomists. They are probably unable to distinguish between a good and a bad man in relation

to higher beings; but they are knowing enough to read anybody's countenance in relation to themselves. They appear to discriminate between those who are partial to their race and those who are not, however the feeling may be suppressed or disguised. We noticed at the show, how here and there an individual, moving with the throng, elicited the interest of each of the animals at pleasure. The dullest responded to his passing caress; the most ferocious became mild in his presence. One could discern, moreover, the almost transforming effects of careful culture wherever it had been brought to bear. On the whole, it was difficult to avoid carrying away with you an impression that the precise line which separates canine from human nature is not easy to detect; and that, in most respects, there are men who are lower than dogs and dogs who are higher than men. We know very little of our own life; but of the life of the inferior animals—what it is and whither it tends—we are supremely ignorant.

Parliamentary Proceedings.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

On Thursday Earl DE GREY and RIFON stated that the Government were taking steps to provide for the defence of the Bristol Channel.

In reply to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, Earl RUSSELL said the Government would give all the information it possessed in reference to the forced emigration of the Circassians. He understood that great hardships and barbarity had accompanied that emigration.

On the motion for going into committee on the Mortgage Debenture Bill, a discussion ensued. Eventually, however, the bill passed through committee.

The Ecclesiastical Courts and Registries (Ireland) Bill and the Summary Procedure (Scotland) Bill were read a second time.

The other orders were disposed of, and the House adjourned at twenty minutes to seven o'clock.

On Friday Lord BERNERS wished to call attention to a statement which appeared in the *Times* and *Morning Herald* respecting the Mount St. Bernard's Reformatory, and said that in order to give the Government full opportunity of making inquiries on the subject, he should, on this day fortnight, ask whether they had received of late any reports upon the discipline and management of the Mount St. Bernard's Reformatory, Leicestershire, and any particulars of the mutiny of 180 inmates again requiring the assistance of a county police force to maintain order and to protect life and property in the district, and also whether the Government were prepared to withdraw the licence from the reformatory.

Lord DUNSANY withdrew for the present the resolution of which he had given notice respecting the conflict between the Assembly in Jamaica and the Lieutenant-Governor of that colony. Lord STANLEY of ALDERLEY consented to the production of the papers, and the motion was agreed to.

On the motion for going into committee on the Chimney Sweepers and Chimney Regulation Bill, the Earl of SHAFTESBURY said the object of the bill was to enforce the principles of the present law by prohibiting the employment of climbing boys altogether. He described the barbarities now practised on climbing boys, and insisted on the necessity for stringent legislation. Lord BROUGHAM and the Earl of DONOUGHMORE supported the bill, which passed through committee with some amendments.

The other orders were disposed of, and the House adjourned at twenty-five minutes past seven o'clock.

On Monday the Duke of MARLBOROUGH called attention to the recent accident in Plymouth Sound through artillery practice. Earl DE GREY said measures were being taken to prevent the recurrence of such accidents.

The LORD CHANCELLOR brought up two messages from the Queen—one recommending a grant of 20,000*l.* to Sir Rowland Hill, the other a pension of 1,000*l.* a year to Lady Elgin. It was ordered that the messages should be taken into consideration on Friday next.

Lord CAMPBELL moved for papers relating to the imprisonment of the Rev. Mr. Anderson, at Grodno, by the Russian authorities, in 1863. Earl RUSSELL explained how Mr. Anderson came to be arrested, but hoped the papers would not be pressed for. Lord CAMPBELL, however, urged their production, and, Earl Russell yielding, the motion was agreed to.

The Earl of LUCAN called attention to the crowded state of Park-lane, and urged that improvements should be made. A brief discussion followed.

The Earl of CLARENDON moved the second reading of the Public Schools Bill, the object of which is to provide that persons acquiring rights in the governing bodies of the public schools shall do so subject to any subsequent legislation Parliament may adopt. An interesting discussion followed, after which the bill was read a second time. The other orders were disposed of, and the House adjourned at five minutes to nine o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

TESTS ABOLITION (OXFORD) BILL.

Petitions having been presented for and against this bill (including one by Mr. J. E. Mills in its favour

from the Congregational Union of England and Wales).

Mr. DODSON moved that the House go into committee on the bill.

Mr. TREFUAS moved to defer the committee for six months. He urged, among other objections to the bill, that it would introduce an entirely new principle into the University; that there was no demand for the measure, nor any strong sympathy outside the House in its favour. He did not believe there was any feeling out of doors in favour of the bill, for the only petitions in favour of it came from Nonconformist colleges, which he believed imposed very strong tests on their students, and it was hardly fair for them to deny the same privilege to the Church universities. The real question involved was whether the universities should continue to be connected with the Established Church.

Mr. LEATHAM contended that the arguments which were now used against the present measure were identical with those which were made available in opposition to all former attempts to promote religious liberty in this country, to the Test Corporation Act, and to the Catholic and Jewish Emancipation. Alluding to statements which had been made, that if Dissenters got into the governing body of the university, it would be deserted by members of the Church of England, and a new and exclusive institution established, he characterised the notion as timorous and craven, and an admission of inherent weakness on the part of those who entertained it. Those tests were not a barrier against scepticism. Scepticism they had already in abundance within the walls of the universities; but there was a thing which hon. gentlemen opposite seemed to dread much more, and that was Nonconformity. Every religious disability which had been removed in this country had consolidated the power of the Church of England. Nothing could be more inconsistent and unwise than the conduct of those who opposed this bill.

Bishops might believe what they pleased, at least, the colonial variety of them apparently were under no obligation to believe in Noah's ark—(a laugh)—and yet they still had a share in the government of the university; but it was thought necessary that the young Nonconformist who believed resolutely in Noah's ark should be kept at arm's length, simply because he did not believe in bishops. (Laughter.) The man of great ability and assiduity was told to stand down, while the men of inferior ability and application passed in by shoals, and all that was narrow and bigoted in the Church exulted over fifth-rate Conformity, while all that was violent and ungracious in Dissent rejoiced to see the young man of genius, whom a little conciliation would have reconciled to the Church, driven into the ranks of her enemies. (Hear.) The reason why this bill was opposed was, that it was a concession to the Nonconformists, and in the minds of some hon. members that was a blow at the Church. This bill, in his opinion, was anything but a blow at the Church. The young Dissenter was taken into the university at the time of life when the imagination was the warmest, and the mind most open to receive new impressions; he was surrounded by an atmosphere full of Church associations, and everything he saw around him was calculated to weaken his attachment to Dissent, and if at the same time he had the consciousness of disabilities generously removed, there could be little doubt that numbers of men under such influences might be attracted to the Church. If that were likely to be the effect of the bill, he might be asked why did the Nonconformists support it? For himself he supported it because there was something greater in his opinion than Nonconformity. What was it that had robbed Nonconformity of all its uncouthness and extravagance when the prisons 200 years ago were full of it? It was that at the root of all Nonconformity there lay the great principle that the consciences of men were absolutely free, that in the soul of man there was something which laughed to scorn all tests and prisons and gaols, and it was because this bill touched this great principle, that, whatever might be the result to Nonconformity, he supported it. (Cheers.)

Mr. C. CLIFFORD had taken as many oaths as most men, and, indeed, the peculiar emphasis with which he had pronounced the words, "horrible and damnable doctrine," and the sternness with which he had regarded the proof who at that day was supposed to be inclined to recreancy, had induced the Vice-Chancellor to request him to act as his fagman in putting the oath on other occasions. (Laughter.) There was no manner of doubt that the multiplication of these tests at a time of life when young men were most inclined to lose themselves in theoretical speculations often drove into the ranks of Dissent men who might otherwise have become zealous defenders of the Church. (Hear, hear.) Nothing could be more absurd than to attempt to check in such a manner the free progress of opinion. Nothing, in his opinion, could be more fatal to the interests of true religion than the proposition that Christianity and the revelations of natural science were irreconcilable—from whatever side that might come, whether it were launched in a pastoral letter of Cardinal Wiseman, or a Protestant bull of Lord Shaftesbury. (Hear, hear.) It was said that if this bill were granted Dissenters would ask for more. For his part, he was quite prepared to go further, if there were any need, and to remove every religious disability which could be fairly pointed out. (Hear, hear.) He certainly was not a friend of any ocean of Dissent coming to sweep away the towers and spires of Oxford. He believed it would be a mere dribble of a stream, and any such fear as that he treated as a mere chimera.

Mr. MORRISON complained that the opponents of the bill had given no sufficient reason for resisting it at the present stage, after the House had affirmed

its principle, but seemed to rest solely on the *vis inertiae* of numbers, in fact, to use a phrase which had now become historic, "to fight it out on that line if it cost the whole summer." (Hear.) No one acquainted with the position of affairs at Oxford could be ignorant that it was not a mere theoretical grievance which this bill sought to remedy; and as far as the remedy was concerned, no member of the University of Cambridge would say that the course which had been adopted there had injured the Church of England. (Hear, hear.) Whenever Nonconformists should be found in the majority in Convocation, would it not be a proof that a change had come over, not the university merely, but the whole country? (Hear, hear.) The true policy for the Church of England to adopt was, he contended, that of concession, and those he believed to be in reality its worst enemies who would hedge it round with an artificial system of protection.

Sir S. NORTHGOTE denied that the principle of the bill had been accepted by the House on the 16th of March last, when it was read a second time, because the majority on that occasion were not agreed as to what its principle really was, the members of the Government who supported it having specially stated that they would regard it as an objectionable measure, and would vote against the third reading if they thought it to be of the character which the hon. member for Huddersfield had just described. It was a question on which the Government ought to have taken the initiative, and one that raised the issue whether Parliament was prepared to go on continually tampering with our universities whenever the salary of a professor, a vote in Convocation, or similar occasions for comment arose. It was a great fact in the constitution of this country that we had an Established Church, and that that Church was intimately connected with our universities, so that there were not simply lay but to a great extent Church Universities also.

Mr. ROEBUCK said the tests were a sort of cobweb which let through the large flies and caught only the small. (Hear, hear.) The case stood thus, that while the most thorough infidels and sceptics, like Gibbon and Hume, might obtain admission into Oxford, conscientious persons like the member for Huddersfield (Mr. Leatham), who might be influenced by scruples, were kept out. And what harm he would ask—seeing that into that House Jew, infidel, or Christian might come—could there be in surrendering at Oxford the petty obstruction which it was sought to remove? Oxford would change, and all our institutions might change, but as there was no danger of change in the people of England, and as the obstacle in question hurt the feelings of a large number of estimable men, he would entreat the House not to refuse to comply with their wishes. (Hear, hear.)

Sir W. HEATHCOTE said that the bill, with amendments in a certain direction—that is, by excluding the governing body from its operation—might be reluctantly agreed to; but as no proposition for altering it had been made, he must oppose it.

Mr. SCULLY urged the expediency of referring the bill to a select committee, observing at the same time that it promised but a miserable instalment of privileges to which the great bulk of the people were entitled to admission. It was not reasonable, he contended, that the *bona fide* members of the Church of England, who did not constitute one-third of the population of the United Kingdom, should monopolise all the advantages of our universities, and he quoted from the evidence given before the Oxford Commission in 1853 by a gentleman who was now a senior Fellow at Balliol, to show that it was from the admission of students into the university without being connected with any college or hall that the greatest good to the university itself, the Church, and the country, was, in the opinion of one of its own members, to be expected. The scheme for the establishment of licensed halls unconnected with the Colleges had entirely failed. Only one had been established at each university. That at Cambridge, which was intended for the benefit of medical students, had only three pensioners, while in that at Oxford there was only one gentleman commoner. The objection to the existing system of tests was that it excluded two-thirds of the people of the United Kingdom and at the same time it admitted many who were not *bona fide*, but only professing members of the Church of England.

Mr. MOOR said he had voted for the second reading of the bill; but he had not thought it right that Nonconformists should have a voice in the governing body of the University, and, seeing no restriction of this kind proposed, he must vote against going into committee.

Mr. NEATE said that the principle of the bill, and the only one which the university had a right to insist upon, was that the religious teaching and the religious worship of the university should be those of the Church of England. Whether those objects would be best secured by a test was a very doubtful matter. He thought that the university would not greatly object to an amendment which he had intended to propose, giving to all nominal Masters of Arts the power of opening halls without taking a test. Every hall must be conducted by a Master of Arts, and as the statutes now stood, every Master of Arts must have subscribed the Thirty-nine Articles. The speaker then referred to the recent banquet held to inaugurate a Conservative Association at Oxford, which he called "a politico-religious revival," and "a deplorable failure." Lord R. Cecil was present, and said that every good Churchman was a Conservative—an assertion he durst not get up and make in that House. (Cheers and laughter.) Such was the combination of religious intolerance and party animosity

instilled into the minds of the inexperienced youth at Oxford. The object of that visit was well known.

It might be that the noble lord would succeed in his object of driving from his seat that distinguished representative in whom the university had so long prided itself. If, however, the noble lord should succeed, and if the Chancellor of the Exchequer should renounce from sheer weariness of spirit the honour he had so long enjoyed—the honour he had so long conferred—(cheers)—if he should be driven to transfer to some other constituency the lustre of his name, he believed that his right hon. friend would carry to whatever seat he might occupy the regrets of all those who were conspicuous in the university for their learning or piety. He by no means gave up the hope that his right hon. friend would retain his seat; but he would, at all events, carry with him to whatever seat he might select the principles which had so long recommended him to the confidence and affection of those whom he might have left, but would not have deserted. (Hear.) If the difficulties that now threatened the Church should increase in their menacing aspect—and they would increase if the Church should be persuaded to add to its difficulties the damage of the noble lord's disastrous advocacy—(cheers)—if the time should come—and he believed the time would come—when the Church should be in danger, who was it that the true sons of the Church would look to in their time of need? Was it to the noble lord the member for Stamford, or the hon. and learned gentleman the member for Durham, who took a part in that most abortive and lamentable failure—(a laugh)—or the hon. member for Leominster, or the right hon. gentleman the member for Bucks, to whom the honour of originating this great revival of religious politics had been imputed? It was not to any of these gentlemen that the friends of the Church would look. They would look to one who had always kept religion a sacred thing apart from politics, who had always loved and respected the Church too much to make her the instrument of a party, who had given to her that which no political combination could give—the assistance of a great intellect humbly submitting to her doctrines, and who, more than any one in connexion with that Church, had a right to say of himself—

Si Pergama dextra
Defendi possent, etiam hac defensa fuissent."

(Cheers.)

Lord ROBERT CECIL spoke of Mr. Neate's remarks as a sort of political epitaph over the Chancellor of the Exchequer—(cheers and laughter)—against the dissolution which the hon. gentleman saw was in more senses than one impending. (Laughter.) The Toryism of Oxford was certainly not dormant. If the hon. gentleman had been present he would have discovered it to be wide-awake Toryism, which would not have endured, without a practical manifestation of vigour, the presence of those gentlemen with whose opinions the hon. member sympathised. (Laughter and cheers.) He himself would not have introduced Mr. Gladstone's name. He deeply admired the personal character of the right hon. gentleman, although he could not agree with his political opinions. It was, however, indecorous and unadvisable to make that House the arena for discussing the electoral contingencies of the hustings. He would, however, there repeat that he did not think a man could be a good Churchman who was not also a good Conservative. (Cheers.)

It was, however, possible that the hon. gentleman and himself might differ as to what a good Churchman was. (Hear.) The Church of the present day was an Established Church, and a man could not be a good supporter of the Church unless he was a supporter of the Established Church, and he could not be a good supporter of the Established Church unless he was a good Conservative. (Hear, hear.) The test had been before the House. From what part of the House did the cheers come which greeted the speech of the hon. gentleman, and what quarter of the House was it that sympathised with the great example of liberal Churchmanship to which the hon. member appealed? Was it to hon. members opposite (pointing below the gangway) that they were to look for those supporters of the Church to whom he had alluded? Was that the style of opinion that the hon. gentleman desired to present as combining advanced Liberal opinions with the support of the Church? If that were the hon. gentleman's Churchmanship, he would admit that not only was a good Churchman not a good Conservative, but that he could not be a good Churchman with opinions of that kind. They all knew that the battle of Conservatism was to fight in support of the Established Church, which their forefathers had handed down to them, and which was the foremost of the institutions of the realm. (Hear, hear.) That Church the Conservative party had banded together to support; and there was no point to which the efforts of the party had been more consistently directed, or by which it had more thoroughly deserved the allegiance of the Conservatives of the country, than in the course they had taken in regard to the maintenance of the Established Church.

He did not think that was the moment to examine the great question of tests. It must, however, be borne in mind that when the governing body of the University was opened to Dissenters of all religions, the House put into their hands the power of regulating the studies of the university. The whole system of the university was moulded by the subjects that were prescribed in the examinations, and they were therefore producing by this bill an entire revolution. They were severing absolutely the connection between the university and the Church, and they were turning what had been for centuries a means of educating youth according to a definite religious belief into an instrument for grinding Latin and Greek into young brains. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. GÜSCHEN combated the novel theory started by the noble lord, and while asserting that amongst Liberals were some of the best friends of the Church, contended that it was the noble lord and those who acted with him who placed the Church in danger by doing all they could to denationalise her. He argued that the opponents of this measure sought to make

Oxford a clerical seminary instead of its being an institution for the education of laymen who might be of any calling, and especially statesmen. The principle of the bill was the abolition of all tests on taking academical degrees. Although its incidental effect might be to introduce Nonconformists into the governing body, that latter was not its principle. The noble lord had said that the effect of introducing members who did not accept the principles of the Church of England would be to destroy the university as an institution connected with the Church; but would the numbers so introduced be a majority? (Lord R. Cecil: "They might be.") Well, then, the days of the university were numbered. (Hear, hear.) As long as the Church of England retained its majority, as it retained its supremacy and its hold over the intellect of the people of England, so long there would be no danger whatever from admitting Nonconformists into the Government of the University. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. C. FORTESCUE, as a Churchman, was thankful for this attempt to get rid of the burden imposed on the lay members of the University by the necessity of accepting, in all its bearings, the dogmatic theology contained in the Prayer-book.

Mr. HENLEY observed on the singularity of the statement of a Churchman, that he desired to be relieved from the bondage of the Prayer-book and the Articles, and pointed out that the arguments of various supporters of the bill were so inconsistent as to be irreconcilable. Therefore as the bill seemed to have no definite principle, he thought they were justified in again dividing upon it. It was quite clear that the supporters of the bill would admit of no compromise, and that the great majority of them accepted it only as an instalment. (Hear, hear.) He was one of those who thought that the government of the university ought to be secure in the hands of the Church. He could not conceive a greater certainty of having no religious teaching at all than to have conflicting elements introduced among those who were to regulate the studies of the university. (Hear, hear.)

Sir G. GREY, advertent to Lord R. Cecil's definition of a good Churchman, said:—

He (Sir G. Grey) believed that man to be a good member of the Church, who while listening to argument, was not opposed to improvement, who showed his attachment to the Church, not by a blind adherence to everything that existed, but who advised, counselled, and was ready to make concessions when by concession a practical grievance might be removed, and who by conciliating the goodwill of those who were outside the pale of the Church invited them to come within its fold, while he firmly resisted every innovation that would tend to impair its stability. (Cheers.)

It had been stated upon the second reading by those who had charge of the bill that it was perfectly competent for those who saw danger in the measure to give notice of amendments. He (Sir G. Grey) stated upon the second reading, and he would repeat it now, that the author of the bill would do wisely in not pressing it in the form in which it stood at present. The principle upon which Parliament had hitherto legislated was this, that the governing body should be connected with the Church, and it would be unwise now to attempt to interfere with that principle. At the same time, he agreed with his hon. friend the member for the city of Oxford that there were some powers now exercised by members of Convocation which might be safely confided to persons who were not members of the Church of England. He thought it would be a great advantage to the University if such persons were permitted to open halls—those who presided over those halls not being subjected to the test which was now imposed. (Hear, hear.) He should be willing in committee to consider any amendments with a view to remove objections to the bill, and he was, therefore, prepared to repeat the vote in favour of the bill which he had given on the second reading. (Hear.)

Mr. NEWDEGATE said that if this test of *bond fide* membership of the Church of England was introduced, it would involve a declaration of adhesion to the discipline as well as the doctrines of the Church of England, and the members of the Church of Scotland would be thereby excluded.

Mr. BOUVERIE remarked that the academical body of the Universities of St. Andrew's and Glasgow had petitioned in favour of the bill, and what they deprecated was the introduction of an amendment which, they said, if introduced would make the governing body more exclusive. He wished to enforce again upon the House that this was not a question between Nonconformists and the Church of England; it was rather a question of the liberty of the laity of the Church of England, upon whom by the present regulations of the university, not of the State, a test was imposed upon the attainment of academical degrees which was imposed upon no other layman within her Majesty's dominions.

Nine-tenths of the laity of a certain age in the Church of England would decline to take that test if they weighed every word of it. (Hear, hear.) He did not know whether the right hon. gentleman (Mr. Henley) had lately refreshed his memory with the test, but the test which was taken by a Master of Arts was a declaration that the whole of the Prayer-book contained nothing contrary to the Word of God—(Hear, hear)—and that he himself would use that book, and no other, in public prayer. (Hear, hear.) Now, was there any layman in the Church of England who would voluntarily take that test if taken in all its weight and force? (Hear, hear.) He might approve of the Prayer-book as worthy of the greatest respect on the part of the Church of England, and of everybody who regarded true piety properly expressed, and true devotional fervour; but to ask him, as a young man arrived at a certain age, to maintain that dogmatical propositions therein contained were an expression of his belief, that the Book of Common

Prayer, composed by a number of uninspired men like ourselves—(laughter and cheers)—contained throughout the whole of it no one thing contrary to the Word of God, that was a test to which he for one would decline to subscribe. (Hear, hear.)

It was evident that the enforcement of these tests had not secured uniformity of opinion at Oxford or prevented religious discord.

Mr. DODSON addressed the House amid cries of "Divide!" He said that he understood some hon. members to state that they took the unusual course of opposing the bill going into committee because they did not know why they voted for the second reading. It was also urged as an objection to the measure that its promoters had given no notice of any amendments with regard to it. The promoters introduced the bill in the form which they approved, and it was not for them to give notice of amendments, but for other persons who desired to see changes in the bill. (Hear, hear.) It was said that the declaration in the bill was vague, but he was of opinion that a declaration of *bond fide* membership in respect to the Church of England was in the nature of a profession of allegiance to that Church, and was more in conformity with practical Christianity than a declaration of assent to a mass of theological dogmas. It was said that the bill would sever the connection between the Church of England and the university. He emphatically denied that that was the object, or that such would be the effect, of the bill. The hon. member addressed a few more observations to the House, but they were drowned in general and repeated calls for a division.

The House then divided, and the numbers were—

For the original motion	...	236
For the amendment	...	226
		—10

The announcement was received with cheers from the Ministerial benches.

The House then went into committee, but Mr. DODSON immediately moved that the Chairman report progress.

On the question being put, there were loud cries of "No," and the House was cleared for a division. No division, however, was taken, the motion was agreed to, and the House resumed.

On going into committee on the Elections Petitions Bill, Mr. AYRTON moved for a select committee to inquire into the expediency of amending the Elections Petitions Act, 1843, and the Act for the Better Discovery and Prevention of Bribery and Treating at Elections. A discussion which was going on was interrupted at a quarter to six o'clock.

The other business was disposed of, and the House adjourned.

JUDICIAL SENTENCES.

On Thursday, in reply to Mr. Clay, Sir G. GREY said his attention had been called to the case of the man White, sentenced to ten years' penal servitude at the Middlesex sessions. Mr. Payne, the deputy assistant-judge, concurred in the finding of the jury, and having in view previous convictions of the prisoner, passed this heavy sentence upon him. The man declared that he had been prevented by police persecution from earning an honest living, and the case stood over for inquiry to be made. He (Sir G. Grey) had made inquiries, and found the man's statements to be untrue. He did not think the sentences at the Middlesex Sessions too severe. Mr. Payne held his appointment at the will of Mr. Bodkin, and for six years had discharged his duties satisfactorily.

ENDOWED SCHOOLS.

Mr. ADDERLEY moved—

That this House, having considered the minute of the 11th March, 1864, on endowed schools, is of opinion that it does not meet the objections made to the minute of the 19th day of May, 1863.

He contended that the new minute contained many of the objectionable orders which were in that condemned by the House. For the House to sanction the present minute would be for it to stultify itself. The return which had been laid on the table in reference to the subject had little to do with his motion, but it was inaccurate. He should suggest that the fact of endowment ought not to rob a school of a grant, but that the grant should in some form or other be given as a stimulant.

Mr. WALTER should on principle oppose, he said, in the distribution of the grant, the respecting of endowments, whether large or small.

Mr. BRUCE explained very fully the views of the Committee of the Privy Council on this subject, and the effect and operation of the Minute of March. It was the desire of the Committee not to blunt the edge of voluntary efforts, while it was their bounden duty, where money was not required, to hold their hand. He opposed the resolution.

The House then divided. The numbers were:—

For the motion	...	111
Against	...	119
Majority	...	—8

The announcement of the numbers was greeted by cheers from the Ministerial benches.

EDUCATION (INSPECTORS' REPORTS).

The adjourned debate on the motion for the appointment of a committee in reference to the reports of the Education Inspectors was resumed by Mr. BOUVERIE, who supported Mr. Clay's amendment for a committee of five chosen by the General Committee of Elections. Mr. BAILLIE supported the original proposal to refer the matter to a select committee. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER thought the smaller committee would be better, but suggested the addition to it of two gentlemen who should act as assessors without a vote. Mr. DISRAELI said notice should have been given of these propositions.

He should support the original motion. Sir F. Baring, Mr. Gower, and Mr. Bright supported the amendment. The original motion was negatived without a division. On the amendment being put as a substantive motion, Mr. BOUVERIE moved an addition to it to carry out the suggestion of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. This was agreed to.

IRISH COURT OF CHANCERY.

On the motion for the second reading of the Court of Chancery (Ireland) Bill, Mr. LONGFIELD moved that the bill be read a second time that day six months. It was not at all calculated to improve the administration of justice in Ireland, and if carried was likely to be attended with large expense. Mr. VANCE seconded the amendment. Mr. O'HAGAN defended the bill, which he said would promote a great improvement in the administration of justice in Ireland. Mr. WHITESIDE opposed the bill as wholly unnecessary, and conceived in ignorance of what was the law in Ireland. Some further discussion followed. Eventually the amendment was withdrawn, and the bill was read a second time.

The other orders were disposed of, and the House adjourned at twenty minutes past one o'clock.

On Friday a very long discussion arose upon a resolution moved by Lord STANLEY,—that so much of the standing order 142 as relates to the owning or using by railway companies of steam-vessels, harbours, and docks, be repealed. The motion was ultimately negatived.

Mr. COBDEN gave notice that on an early day he would bring under the consideration of the House the great extension of our Government manufacturing establishments, and move a resolution.

In reply to Mr. B. Cochrane, Mr. LAYARD said the telegram published in the papers stating that England would extend her protection over the Ionian Islands in their relations with the Turkish authorities for another year was incorrect. All that England had done was to express her readiness to extend her protection to carry out certain judgments in the case of the Ionians.

In reply to Mr. H. Seymour, Mr. LAYARD said they had received indirect information that the King of Abyssinia had placed in confinement her Majesty's Consul and some missionaries who were established in that country. It appeared that he had also confined the French Consul, but, according to the last information, the French Consul had been released. The information on the subject, however, was very indirect, as the King took care that none should leave the country if he could help it. Her Majesty's Government would do all they could to procure the release of the consul and missionaries, but they were afraid that any persons who might be sent to Abyssinia would share the same fate as the consul. The question then was how to get at the King without endangering the safety of other persons.

Sir J. PAKINGTON gave notice that, on the motion for going into committee of supply on the Education Estimates, he would move that in making grants to schools in the possession of endowments regard should be had to the assistance given in each case and to the requirements of the schools.

GREENWICH HOSPITAL.

On the motion for going into committee of supply, Sir J. HAY moved a resolution to the effect that the present system of double government of Greenwich Hospital should be abolished. That system had led to great mismanagement, and had made the hospital unpopular with the seamen. Mr. LIDDELL seconded the motion, which was supported by Mr. ADAM. Mr. CHILDERS admitted that there were grave abuses in the management of the hospital. For every 1000 expended there were only one seaman and one marine within its walls. The recommendations of the Commissioners in regard to the pensioners had been fairly carried out. In spite of the reforms, however, the number of pensioners had fallen off, and the Government were most anxious to give a careful attention to the matter. They proposed to put into force further reforms and to abolish entirely the present system of double government. A scheme to carry out these proposals would be fully matured, and at the commencement of next session the Government would be prepared to submit it to the House. After some words from Sir J. Pakington, Mr. Ingram, Mr. Angerstein, and Lord C. Paget, Sir J. Hay withdrew his motion.

SCOTCH AFFAIRS.

Sir J. FERGUSSON moved for a select committee to inquire how far the number of members of the Administration charged with the conduct of the affairs of Scotland, and having seats in Parliament, is commensurate with the requirements of that part of the United Kingdom. During the hon. baronet's speech two attempts to count the House were made without success. He said he did not wish to cast any imputation on the Lord Advocate; but, owing to the prolonged absences of the right hon. gentleman many useful measures relating to Scotland were either shelved or passed without due consideration. He thought there was a necessity for another Scotch member of the Administration. Major HAMILTON supported the motion. Mr. BOUVERIE, believing it to be wholly unnecessary, should oppose it. The LORD ADVOCATE denied the necessity for such an inquiry as that proposed, and pointed out the numerous measures relating to Scotland which had been passed. After some further discussion the motion was withdrawn.

Mr. R. MILLS asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether for the convenience of the public he would order dividends on Government Annuities payable at the Bank of England in October, to be paid on the 8th of that month. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said such a course would entail

considerable financial inconvenience, and he could not undertake to comply with the request.

Mr. TORRENS asked whether the Government intended to carry out the recommendation of the select committee on the Essex Forests, and moved for correspondence relating to the Forests. Mr. F. PEEL declined to produce the correspondence, and said the recommendations could not be carried out unless the resolution of last session, prohibiting the sale of the Crown rights, should be rescinded. A short discussion followed.

PARLIAMENTARY EXTRAVAGANCE.

Sir L. PALE moved that on the next Tuesday the House resolve itself into a committee to consider the claims of staff captains, commanders, and masters in the Royal Navy. Great injustice was now done to these officers, and this he sought to have remedied. Sir J. PAKINGTON supported the motion, which was opposed by Lord C. PAGET and the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER. The latter said there was in fact, a pretence and a rush for these appointments which the hon. gentleman seemed to think were the subject of such great and general grievances; and the same might be said of every branch of the service with one exception—the surgeons. This question, which the hon. gentleman seemed to think had only one side, had really two sides.

Other people had their grievances besides naval officers. This was not a Utopian world, a Paradise in which it was possible to deal out benefits and blessings all round *ad libitum*. It was a hard-working world, in which the mass of human beings found it difficult to live. He had to remember the taxpayers; and how was he to look in the face of the poor Irish peasant, and say to him, "Let us augment the pay of all classes of public servants"? For other public servants were in just the same case. The Post-office, the Customs, the Inland Revenue Department, the Colonial Governors, raised one continued cry for increased emoluments along with naval officers. On the other hand, he received every day applications from persons who prayed for exemption from taxes, and told piteous stories of poverty; but it was his duty to say in all these cases, "The law must take its course." This was the taxpaying side of the question. If there had been a contract between the public and the naval officers the public had faithfully fulfilled its contract, and, indeed, had more than fulfilled it.

The amendment was eventually withdrawn, and after some other business the House adjourned at two o'clock.

On Monday, in reply to Mr. Aytoun and Mr. A. Mills, Mr. CARDWELL said it was the intention of the Government to propose a measure to the House in reference to the New Zealand loan, and that the Government had no official information of the British troops having suffered a reverse in New Zealand.

THE CONFERENCE.

In reply to Mr. B. Osborne, Lord PALMERSTON declined to state what had been the proceedings of the Conference with regard to the matters in hand. The Plenipotentiaries had agreed that their proceedings should be kept secret. An extension of the armistice had not been agreed upon, but there was good reason to believe that at the next meeting of the Conference some arrangements for the purpose would be made. In reply to other questions, his lordship stated that no day had yet been fixed for the next meeting of the Conference. The Plenipotentiaries were waiting for despatches from their Courts. There was no reason, however, to doubt that they would meet before the expiration of the armistice.

NEW PENSIONS.

Lord PALMERSTON brought up two messages from her Majesty, which were read by the speaker. The first was as follows:—

Victoria Regina.—Her Majesty, taking into consideration the eminent services of Sir Rowland Hill, late Secretary of the General Post Office, in devising and carrying out important improvements in postal administration; and being desirous, in recognition of such services, to confer some signal mark of her favour upon him, recommends to her faithful Commons that she should be enabled to grant to Sir Rowland Hill the sum of 20,000*l*. (Hear, hear.)

The second message recommended a pension of 1,000*l*. a-year to be settled on Lady Elgin for life. It was received with general cheers.

INDIAN OFFICERS.

On the motion for going into committee of supply, Colonel SYKES called attention to the practice of employing Indian officers with regiments to which they did not belong. He contended that the officers were badly used in the matter, and declared that the practice cut at the root of the efficiency of the army. After some words from Mr. Vansittart, Mr. Torrens, and Captain Jervis, Sir C. WOOD said the course which had been taken had been adopted by the advice of the present Viceroy, and he believed it would be advantageous. After a few words from Sir M. FARQUHAR, the matter dropped.

THE DANO-GERMAN QUESTION.

Lord H. LENNOX asked Mr. Osborne if he was satisfied with the answer he had that evening received. If he was satisfied, it was more than most members were. It was notorious that on the continent the proceedings of the Conference were published and canvassed, while at home they could get no information. The noble lord ought to tell them whether the statements in the foreign journals were correct, and whether the same Government which in the early part of the session declared itself in favour of maintaining the treaty of 1852, and the integrity of the Danish monarchy, was now prepared to annihilate the treaty of 1852, and dismember the Danish monarchy.

Mr. OSBORNE said he was not satisfied with the answer he had received. He might add it had struck him from the first that that Conference was instituted rather to preserve the integrity of the Treasury Bench—(Hear, hear)—and to prevent the dismem-

berment of her Majesty's Ministers—(cheers and laughter)—than to maintain the integrity of Denmark. What was the present position of the House and of the country generally?

Why, that while the lowest inhabitant of the most petty capital on the continent learns from his paper what is taking place here, we, the subjects of a constitutional Sovereign, are the worst-informed persons in Europe on this subject. (Cheers.) How long, I should like to know, is this to continue? If I were to use the word "farce," Sir, in connection with the proceedings I should, I believe, be called to order by you; but this I may say, that the House of Commons is placed in regard to them in a most humiliating position—(Hear, hear)—and is being tricked into silence by the members of the Government—(Hear, hear)—who appear to have taken the vows usually taken by the monks of La Trappe. (A laugh.)

If they submitted to these evasive answers they would be digging the grave, not only of the dignity of the House of Commons, but of the national honour. (Cheers.)

Mr. DISRAELI said he was dissatisfied with the answer which had been given as to the Conference by Lord Palmerston. The House had been content to wait patiently so long as they were convinced that the policy which the Government had announced was that which they were pursuing. The House was ignorant of what was being done in the Conference, except in so far as the reports from the Continent gave them information. They had a right, therefore, to expect that the Government would declare what was being done. If the policy of the Government had been changed, the House had a right to be informed of it. They had been told that this country went into the Conference on the basis of the Treaty of 1852, and to maintain the integrity and independence of Denmark. But, according to rumour, that policy was abandoned. Some explanation of this was essential.

But, if what I have ventured to call a wild hypothesis be true, if it be the fact that her Majesty's Government in this interval have entirely changed their policy, if they themselves are participating in the partition of Denmark—(loud cheers)—which only five months ago they were stirring up a European war to prevent, then I say it is a mockery of the House of Commons if under such circumstances the noble lord is silent. (Loud cheers.)

Lord PALMERSTON said they had just heard a magnificent display of virtuous indignation—(loud cries of "Oh!" and cheers)—from the right hon. gentleman, who knew that he (Lord Palmerston) could not defend himself. He was like a man attacking another who had his arms tied behind him. (Laughter and cheers.) He knew that, because he had been in office. He challenged the right hon. gentleman to say what his policy was. Let him propose that the House would support the Crown with all the money and means that might be necessary to give effect to the policy he proposed. The right hon. gentleman must know that to state from day to day what the Conference was doing would be dangerous to the result which those who wished for the peace of Europe were anxious should be accomplished. In spite of the taunts of the right hon. gentleman, he (Lord Palmerston) should not be induced to violate what he considered his duty, or throw impediments in the way of a successful result. When the negotiations had arrived at a stage when the Government could consistently make them known to the House he would do so. He was quite sure he should then be able to show that the Government had done its duty, and what was for the interest of the country.

Mr. S. FITZGERALD complained that the noble lord had misrepresented Mr. Disraeli. What the House wanted to know was whether the Government had changed its policy to the extent which the rumours indicated. Lord R. CREIL taunted the Government with its silence, and declared that under the auspices of the noble lord, England, under the pretence of serving Denmark, was really betraying her. To the noble lord and those who sat with him, the welfare of Denmark, the maintenance of treaties, and the upholding of the pledged word of England, were trifles compared with that which was paramount in their minds—the advanced state of the session. (Cheers, and cries of "Oh!") He ventured to say that the House of Commons and the country would not long submit to the silence which the noble lord wished to impose upon them. Mr. KINGLAKE said it became those who valued the peace of Europe rather to welcome the retirement of the Government from a position which seemed to be untenable than to render that retirement difficult by taunting them with the words they had used at an earlier period of the session. (Cheers.) After a few words from Mr. D. GRIFFITH and Sir H. VERNEY, the matter dropped.

Mr. H. SEYMOUR asked when the promised Ecclesiastical Registry Bill would be laid on the table, and whether the Government would produce the correspondence with the bishops on the subject. Sir G. GREY hoped the Lord Chancellor would be able to have this bill ready this session. There was no correspondence with the prelates.

NEW NATIONAL GALLERY—DEFEAT OF THE GOVERNMENT.

The House then went into a committee of supply upon the Civil Service Estimates.

Mr. COWPER, in moving a supplementary estimate of 10,000*l*. on account of the new National Gallery at Burlington House, gave a history of past proceedings of commissions and committees with reference to the site of the gallery, and proceeded to explain the intentions of the Government as to the dimensions of the proposed new building, as detailed in a statement accompanying the estimate. The entire cost of the building was estimated at 152,000*l*., and he was of opinion that the proposed

site was the best that could be obtained for the purpose, and that the proposal was an economical one.

Lord J. MANNERS opposed the vote. The advantages of Trafalgar-square as the site of a national gallery had been acknowledged by the highest authorities, and it was the best in every point of view. There was room enough there for the pictures at present, and would be for some years to come, and additional space might be obtained when necessary. Not a word had been said by Mr. Cowper in regard to any stipulation with the Royal Academy, and he could not help thinking that the building in Trafalgar-square was to be handed over to the Academy without any engagement whatever.

The committee might rest satisfied as to the sufficiency of available space at Trafalgar-square. A scheme had been propounded by which, at a very slight expense, a gallery might be erected there 200ft. long by 40ft. wide in the rear of the existing National Gallery, without buying one single inch of land. It had been said that that scheme had not found favour with the military authorities. But he had ascertained the opinion of the highest military authority, and could state that no objection whatever was felt to this scheme. (Hear.) If further space were required in process of time, it was a great mistake to suppose that the military authorities were wedded to the site of Trafalgar-square for their barracks. (Hear, hear.) They were perfectly ready to have their barracks put in another position; this was a mere question of cost, and there was no difficulty in the matter. (Hear.)

He urged the committee, therefore, to come to a clear and decisive resolution upon the question.

Mr. GREGORY supported most cordially the proposal of the Government. Mr. AUGUSTUS SMITH opposed it. Mr. COWPER said it was proposed, if the site of Burlington House was adopted for the National Gallery, to hand over the building in Trafalgar-square to the Royal Academy, but no arrangement had yet been made as to the terms. Mr. S. Booth, Mr. Ayrton, Mr. Ferrand, and Mr. H. Seymour spoke against the vote; Lord Elotho and Mr. Walter in its favour.

Lord PALMERSTON explained the grounds upon which he had altered his views as to the site of a National Gallery, and argued that considering the large expense which would attend the necessary alterations in Trafalgar-square, on the ground of economy, there could be no question that the Government proposal was the preferable one. It was proposed that the Royal Academy should have the use, not the possession, of the site in Trafalgar-square. The enlargement of the present building for the National Gallery would be costly and inefficient. They could not proceed on the makeshift plan of using a gallery set upon iron pillars at the back of the present building. ("Oh, oh!" and "Hear, hear.") In order to make the gallery answer the purpose, it would be necessary to take the barrack-yard, to buy the workhouse and the other buildings connected with it; and to satisfy those who look at the matter with a critical eye the front of the present building would also have to be altered. ("Oh!") Within the ground at Burlington-gardens they could obtain a suitable receptacle for their pictures, ample in accommodation, and satisfactory in regard to the means of displaying them, and at a less expense than they could procure the same accommodation at the other place. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. OSBORNE reminded the House that in 1860 it had voted 17,000*l*. on the express ground that the building in Trafalgar-square was to be a permanent gallery for the reception of the national pictures. Then the "First Commissioner of Taste" had not discovered that these domes of the National Gallery were only fit for a suburban villa; he had not discovered that these rooms were narrow, disjointed, petty, and dusty. But to-night he had not only found this out, but converted his noble relative also. (Laughter.) Mr. OSBORNE then quoted the remarks of the Chancellor of the Exchequer on a former occasion as to the management of our public buildings, who said:—

Vacillation, uncertainty, costliness, extravagance, meanness (laughter and cheers), and all the conflicting vices that could be enumerated, were united in our present system. There was a total want of authority to direct and guide.

And he concluded in these words—words which he (Mr. Osborne) should have been afraid to utter himself, and which certainly seemed to require a special preface all to themselves (laughter):—

He believed such were the evils of the system that nothing short of a revolutionary reform would ever be sufficient to rectify it.

(Loud cheers.) He warned the House of the consequences of granting the vote before them. The original estimate for the Houses of Parliament was 750,000*l*.; it had cost 3,000,000*l*., and he thought they would be wanting in duty to the country if they acceded to the vote. (Cheers.)

The committee then divided. The numbers were—

Ayes	...	...	...	...	122
Noes	...	...	...	...	174

Majority against the vote ... 52

The announcement of the numbers was received with cheers.

Several votes for the expenses of the public offices were agreed to, and on the motion that the chairman report progress,

Lord ELOHO said that the committee having rejected the vote of 150,000*l*. for a new National Gallery in one of its economical fits—(cries of "No")—well, then, in one of one of its uneconomical fits—"Oh"—he wished to know what course the Government intended to take. The feeling of the committee appeared to be in favour

of retaining the National Gallery in its present site, but members wished for a new building in every way worthy of the nation. ("Oh!") If not, there was no meaning in the vote the committee had come to. The estimate of Mr. Hunt, the surveyor of public buildings, for enlarging and improving the National Gallery—an estimate demanded by the Treasury a few years ago—was 500,000*l.*; and he wished to know whether, before the Session closed, the Government would be prepared to ask the House for a vote towards the erection of the new National Gallery, which the committee wished to occupy the site of the present building. ("No!") If this was not the wish of the committee, it had only stultified itself by its vote that night. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. SCLATER-BOTH said that the noble Lord had put an unjustifiable interpretation on the vote come to by the committee. (Hear, hear.) They had expressed no wish that a new National Gallery should be built in Trafalgar-square, but the feeling rather was that a very moderate extension of the present building would be sufficient. What the committee wanted was to get rid of the Royal Academy. (Cheers.) That body had plenty of money, and could afford to build itself a gallery. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. HIBBERT wished to know whether the Government would, in consequence of the vote come to that night, take any steps to make the whole of the National Gallery available for the purposes of the national pictures. (Hear, hear.)

(No answer was returned to this question.)

The chairman then reported progress, and the House resumed.

The Government Annuities, &c., Bill was recommitted, and received certain amendments.

The Public and Refreshment Houses (Metropolis) Bill was committed *pro forma*.

Other bills were forwarded, and the remaining business having been disposed of, the House was counted out at a quarter to two o'clock.

TESTS ABOLITION (OXFORD) BILL.

The following is the division list of last Wednesday on the above bill:—

MAJORITY—AYES, 236		
Adair, H E	Fenwick, E M	Norris, J T
Adam, W P	Fenwick, H	North, F
Agnew, Sir A	Fermoy, Lord	O'Brien, Sir P
Alcock, T	Finch, C W	O'Connor Don, The
Andover, Viscount	Finlay, A S	O'Loughlin, Sir C M
Anstruther, Sir R	Fitzroy, Lord F J	Onslow, G
Antrobus, E	Fitzwilliam, Hn CW	Owen, Sir H O
Athlumney, Lord	Foljambe, F J S	Packer, Colonel
Ayrtoun, A S	Forster, C	Paget, C
Aytoun, R S	Forster, W E	Paget, Lord C
Bagwell, J	Foster, W O	Pease, H
Baines, E	Fortescue, Hon F D	Peel, Rt Hon Sir R
Baring, Sir F T	Fortescue, Rt Hn C	Peel, Rt Hon F
Baring, T G	French, Colonel	Pender, J
Baxter, W E	Gaskell, J M	Peto, Sir S M
Basley, T	Gibson, Rt Hn T M	Pilkington, J
Beaumont, W B	Gilpin, C	Pinney, Colonel
Beaumont, S A	Gladstone, Rt Hn W	Ponsonby, Hon A
Bellew, R M	Glyn, G O	Potter, E
Berkeley, Hon H F	Goldsmid, Sir F H	Powell, J J
Biddulph, Colonel	Gower, Hon F L	Pryce, E L
Black, A	Greene, J	Ramsden, Sir J W
Blake, J	Greenwood, J	Ricardo, O
Blencowe, J G	Gregson, S	Robertson, T J A
Bouverie, Rt Hn E P	Grenfell, H R	Robertson, D
Bouverie, Hon P P	Grey, Rt Hn Sir G	Rothschild, Baron
Brad, Hon H	Gurdon, B	Russell, A
Bright, J	Gurney, S	Russell, Sir W
Brown, J	Hadfield, G	St Aubyn, J
Browne, Lord J T	Hanbury, R	Scholefield, W
Bruce, Rt Hon H A	Handley, J	Scott, Sir W
Buchanan, W	Hankey, V	Scully, V
Buckley, General	Hardcastle, J A	Seely, C
Buller, J W	Hartington, Marquis	Seymour, H D
Burke, Sir T J	Hayter, Rt Hn Sir W	Seymour, W D
Butler, C S	Headlam, Rt Hn T E	Seymour, A
Butt, I	Henley, Lord	Shafte, R D
Buxton, C	Herbert, Rt Hn H A	Shelley, Sir J V
Caird, J	Hibbert, J T	Sheridan, R B
Calthorpe, Hon F H	Hodgkinson, G	Sidney, T
Cardwell, Rt Hon E	Hodgson, K D	Smith, J A
Childers, H O E	Holland, E	Smith, J B
Cholmeley, Sir M J	Howard, Hon C W G	Stapole, W
Churchill, Lord A S	Hutt, Right Hon W	Staniland, M
Clay, J	Ingham, R	Stansfeld, J
Clifford, C C	Jervoise, Sir J C	Stuart, Colonel
Clifford, Colonel	Johnstone, Sir J	Sykes, Colonel W H
Clifton, Sir R J	King, Hon P J L	Talbot, C R M
Clive, G	Kinglake, A W	Taylor, P A
Cobbett, J M	Kinglake, J A	Thompson, H S
Cobden, R	Kinnaird, Hon A F	Tite, W
Coke, Hon Colonel	Layard, A H	Tollemache, Hon F J
Colebrooke, Sir T E	Lawson, W H G	Tomlinson, G
Collier, Sir R P	Lawson, W	Tracy, Hon C R D
Corbally, M E	Leatham, E A	Trelawny, Sir J S
Cowper, Rt Hn W F	Lefevre, G J S	Turner, J A
Cox, W	Lee, W	Verney, Sir H
Craufurd, E H J	Lewis, H	Vernon, H F
Crawford, R W	Lindsay, W S	Villiers, Rt Hon C P
Croasley, Sir F	Locke, J	Vivian, H H
Dalglish, R	Lysley, W J	Vyner, R A
Davie, Sir H R F	MacEwen, E	Waldron, L
Davie, Colonel F	Mackie, J	Warner, E
Dering, Sir E C	Mackinnon, W A	Watkin, E W
Dillwyn, L L	Mackinnon, W A	Western, S
Douglas, Sir C	M'Mahon, P	Westhead, J P B
Duff, M E G	Maguire, J F	Whitbread, S
Duff, R W	Marjoribanks, D C	White, J
Dunbar, Sir W	Marsh, M H	White, Hon L
Dundas, F	Martin, P W	Wickham, H W
Dundas, Rt Hn Sir D	Martin, J	Williams, W
Dunkelin, Lord	Massey, W N	Winnington, Sir T E
Dunlop, A M	Merry, J	Wood, Rt Hon Sir C
Enfield, Viscount	Miller, W	Woods, H
Ennis, J	Mitchell, T A	Wrightson, W B
Emonde, J	Moncrieff, Rt Hn W	Wyvill, M
Evans, T W	Monsell, Rt Hon W	
Ewart, W	Morris, D	
Ewart, J C	Morrison, W	
Ewing, H E Crum-	Neate, C	
MINORITY—NOES.		
Adderley, Rt Hn C B	Beresford, Rt Hn W	Cairns, Sir H M C
Arbuthnot, Hn Gen	Beresford, D W	Cargill, W W
Asell, J H	Bernard, Hon Col	Cartwright, Colonel
Bailey, O	Bernard, T T	Cave, S
Baillie, H J	Bond, J W M G	Cecil, Lord R
Baring, A H	Booth, Sir R G	Clive, Capt Hn G W
Barrow, W H	Bovill, W	Cole, Hon J L
Bateson, Sir T	Bramston, T W	Cole, Hon J L
Bathurst, Colonel H	Brembridge, R	Collins, T
Beach, W W B	Bridges, Sir B W	Conolly, T
Beecroft, G S	Brooks, R	Corry, Rt Hon H L
Bentick, G W P	Bruce, Sir H H	Cubitt, G
Bentick, G C	Burgley, Lord	Curzon, Viscount
Benyon, R	Burrell, Sir P	Dalkeith, Earl of

Damer, S D	Humbertson, P S	Powell, F S
Dawson, R P	Hume, W W F	Powys-Lybbe, P L
Dickson, Colonel	Humphrey, W H	Repton, G W J
Disraeli, Rt Hon B	Hunt, G W	Ridley, Sir M W
Du Cane, C	Ingestre, Viscount	Rogers, J J
Duncombe, Hon A	Jermyn, Earl of	Rolt, J
Duncombe, Hn W E	Jervill, Captain	Rowley, Hon R T
Du Pre, C G	Jolliffe, Rt Hn Sir W	Salt, T
Dutton, Hon R H	Jones, D	Sclater-Booth, G
Edwards, Colonel	Kekewich, S T	Scott, Lord H
Egerton, Hon A F	Kennard, R W	Scourfield, J H
Egerton, E C	Ker, D S	Shirley, E P
Elphinstone, Sir J D	King, J K	Smith, Abel
Estcourt, T H S	Knatchbull, W E	Smith, S G
Fane, Colonel J W	Knightley, R	Somers, Colonel
Farquhar, Sir M	Knox, Colonel	Somes, J B
Fellowes, E	Knox, Hn Major S	Stanhope, Lord
Fergusson, Sir J	Langton, W G	Stracey, Sir H
Ferrand, W	Leader, N P	Stronge, J M
Filmer, Sir E	Leeke, Sir H	Stewart, Sir M R S
FitzGerald, W R S	Lefroy, A	Stewart, Lt-Col W
Fleming, T W	Legh, Major C	Sturt, H G
Floyer, J	Leighton, Sir B	Sturt, Lieut-Col N
Forde, Colonel	Lennox, Lord G G	Surtees, H E
Forester, Rt Hn Gen	Lennox, CSBH K	Talbot, Hon W C
Franklyn, G W	Leslie, C P	Taylor, Colonel
Fraser, Sir W A	Liddell, Hon H G	Thynne, Lord E
Gallway, Sir W P	Longfield, R	Thynne, Lord H
Galway, Viscount	Lopes, Sir M	Tollemache, J
Gard, R S	Lowther, Hon Col	Torrens, R
George, J	Macaulay, K	Tottenham, Lt-Col
Getty, S G	Malcolm, J W	Treherne, M
Goddard, A L	Malins, R	Trevor, Lord A E H
Gore, J R O	Manners, Lord J	Trollope, Rt Hn Sir J
Gore, W R O	Manners, Lord G J	Turner, C
Gower, G W G L	Maxwell, Hon Col	Vance, J
Graham, Lord W	Miller, J T	Vansittart, W
Greenall, G	Mills, A	Verner, Sir W
Grey de Wilton, Vis	Mitford, W T	Verner, E W
Grogan, Sir E	Moor, H	Vyse, Colonel H
Halliburton, T	Mordaunt, Sir C	Walcott, Admiral
Hamilton, Major	Morgan, O	Walker, J R
Hamilton, Viscount	Mowbray, Rt Hn J R	Walsh, Sir J
Hamilton, I T	Naas, Lord	Waterhouse, S
Hardy, J	Newdegate, C N	Watlington, J W P
Hardy, E B	Newport, Viscount	Way, A E
Harvey, R B	Nicol, W	Welby, W E
Hay, Sir J C D	Noel, Hon G J	Whiteside, Rt Hn J
Heathcote, Sir W	North, Colonel	Whitmore, H
Henley, Rt Hn J W	Northcote, Sir S H	Wood, B T
Henniker, Lord	O'Neill, E	Wyndham, Hon P
Heaketh, Sir T G	Packer, C W J	Wynn, Sir W W
Heygate, Sir F W	Pakenham, Colonel	Wynn, C W W
Hill, Hon R C	Pakington, Sir J	Wynne, W W E
Hodgson, R	Palk, Sir L	Yorke, Hon E T
Holmesdale, Visct	Palmer, R W	Yorke, J R
Hood, Sir A A	Patten, Colonel W	
Hopwood, J T	Peacocke, G M W	
Hornby, W H	Peel, Right Hon G	
Horsfall, T B	Pennant, Hon Col	
Hotham, Lord	Pevensey, Viscount	
Howes, E	Phillips, G L	

TELLERS.		TELLERS.	
Mr Doulton	Lord A Hervey	Mr Scrope	Mr Laird
Mr Padmore	Mr R Long	Mr H Robertson	Mr W Miles
Mr Adams	Mr Lyall	Mr Traill	Mr Morgan, jun
Mr Wyld	Sir F Kelly	Col Kingscote	Col Williams
Sir G Colthurst	Hon Captain	Mr Carnegie	Mr Bruen
	Wyndham	Sir J Acton	Lord Claude
Mr B Osborne	Hn W Egerton		Hamilton
Mr H Russell	Colonel Gilpin	Mr B Johnston	Captain Gray
Ld G Cavendish	Capt Lowther	Mr Steel	Alderman Rose
Mr O Berkeley	Col Bartlett	Mr Jackson	Mr Cobbold
Mr Davey	Mr Holford	Mr R Mills	Ld R Montagu
Ld Grosvenor	Sir P Egerton	Ald Salomons	Ald Copeland
Sir J Paxton	Mr Heygate	Sir De L Evans	Sir E Kerrison
Mr F Berkeley	Sir W Codrington	Mr Hugessen	Mr Knight
	ton	Mr O'Hagan	Lord Bective
Mr Whalley	Mr Kendall	Hn G Denman	Mr Murray
Col Watkins	Mr Walpole	Mr Dent	Sir F Smith
Hn W Portman	Lord Lovaine	Ld R Grosvenor	Mr W J Morrill
Mr A Smith	Sir G Mont	Mr Roebuck	Mr M'Cormick
	gomery	Mr Price	Mr B Cochrane
Mr G G Glyn	Mr Mundy	Sir J Ogilvie	Mr Chapman
Mr Horman	Mr Papillon	Lord E Bruce	Sir E B Lytton
Mr Bonham	Capt Jolliffe	Mr Henderson	Mr W Long
Carter		Mr Beale	Colonel Powell

ANALYSIS OF THE DIVISION.
The number of members who voted and paired on the bill was as follows:—

	For.	Against.
Voted	236	226
Tellers	2	2
Pairs	43	43
	281	271

The total number of members, therefore, who pronounced an opinion last Wednesday on this measure was 552, and the total number who have recorded their opinions in its favour on either the last or the previous division is 317. All the members of the Government have voted for it excepting Lord Palmerston, Sir Roundell Palmer, and Viscount Bury. The bill was supported last week by three Conservatives, namely, Lord A. Churchill, Mr. Butler Johnstone, and Mr. M. J. Gaskell. It was opposed by three Liberals, namely, Mr. Crawshaw Bailey (Monmouth Borough), Mr. Leveson Gower (Reigate), and Mr. J. Getty (Belfast). Mr. Gower's vote, which has now been repeated, has, we understand, given great offence to some of his constituents. The only member who changed his vote last Wednesday was Mr. Moor, the Conservative member for Brighton.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES AT CAMBRIDGE.

The Prince and Princess of Wales, accompanied by the Duke of Cambridge, Lord and Lady Palmerston, and several other distinguished personages, proceeded on Thursday to Cambridge by the Great Northern Railway. Great preparations had been made for the reception of the Prince and Princess, and on their arrival "town and gown" turned out in mass to meet them, and to escort them in procession to Trinity College. There, in a handsome marquee, the Duke of Devonshire (Chancellor of the University), the Vice-Chancellor (Dr. Cookson), the Heads of Houses, Professors and members of the Senate, assembled and presented a formal address to the Prince. The Prince read a short reply, in which he acknowledged the compliment paid him by the University, and assured the heads of that body

that in their address they had only done justice to his own feelings. He could not easily forget a period endeared to him by so many pleasant associations. The Princess was very sensible of the cordiality of the welcome accorded to her, and equally with himself anticipated the greatest pleasure from visiting the many objects of interest to be found in the University. A procession, headed by the dignitaries, and consisting of the colleges in order of seniority, the divisions between each being very successfully indicated by the banners of the various boat clubs, then marched past the marquee, each lowering its flag in compliment to the Prince and Princess as it passed. As soon as the procession, closing with the officers of the Cambridge Town Volunteer Corps, had withdrawn, the University Volunteers, who meanwhile had packed themselves away in the closest column known to military art, advanced in line as to the centre, with both flanks thrown forward in front so as to form, when the word was given to halt and front, a hollow square about the platform. Each of them wore a small red and white riband as a mark of sympathy and respect. Her Royal Highness in person proceeded to deliver a considerable number of prizes. The distinguished party afterwards re-entered Trinity Lodge and partook of some refreshment. In the afternoon there was a vast assemblage at the Senate House, and the undergraduates amused themselves after their usual fashion. Three cheers were given for Lord Palmerston and three unmistakable groans for Earl Russell. Three hearty rounds of applause for the Prince and Princess were succeeded like the swing of a pendulum by as many deep-mouthed revilings of "Gladstone and Democracy," the sound but not the sense of which latter sentiment was afterwards changed to "Gladstone and Bright." "The dark girl dressed in blue" was enthusiastically honoured, and numerous inquiries of "Where is she?" immediately followed. The cheering for Professor Kingsley was very hearty, and that for the "South" loud, but not altogether unanimous. The Prince and Princess arrived soon after three o'clock. Until her Royal Highness had reached her place there was a respectful hush, but the moment this was attained the cheers of the assembly, again and again renewed, poured forth in deafening volume to welcome her to the headquarters of the University. The Prince of Wales, accompanied by the Duke of Cambridge and the members of his household, all in the scarlet robes of Doctors of Law, entered shortly afterwards, and his Royal Highness received a welcome little, if anything, short, in point of enthusiasm, to that already bestowed upon his consort. The Undergraduates, however, were bent upon paying especial court to the Princess, and the next cry raised—"Three cheers for the King of Denmark," by the response which it elicited proved what was the feeling uppermost in their minds. Commensurate groans for "Austria" followed, and seemed likely to last for an indefinite period, until suddenly some one, with a sense of propriety stronger upon him than the rest, invited "Three cheers for the Queen," which were given with right good will, and then the assembly settled down to business. The Prince of Wales, in the first place, was installed a Doctor of Laws, his admission at the hands of the Duke of Devonshire being preceded by a short address in Latin on the part of the Public Orator, and, as this was the event of the day, the acclamations were of course proportionate. The Duke of Cambridge was next admitted, a reference being made by the Orator to the share which he had taken in the dangers of actual war. The Public Orator (the Rev. W. G. Clark) then proceeded to deliver the accustomed oration.

Reference was made to the enthusiastic welcome given to the Prince and Princess, and to the ancient and constant loyalty of the University, for which now-a-days no credit could be claimed, as our present Sovereign had learnt how to reconcile the Royal prerogative with popular liberties, so that throughout the empire there was no political prisoner nor any English refugees abroad. The address enlarged upon the domestic virtues of the Sovereign, which had made the whole people sharers in her joys and sorrows, and referred to the career of the late Prince Consort as an example to his son. That son's love of everything English—sport as well as serious matters—was insisted upon as an additional bond of union with the English people. And then, turning to the Princess, the Orator said, he would not praise them to their faces, because the Princess of a free country ought to scorn even the appearance of flattery, but sympathy and respect at the hands of subjects were offerings which Princes might gladly receive; and this observation led the way to a digression upon Danish affairs, in which the courage and patriotism of the King, her father, and the fortitude of his subjects, were dwelt upon amid the plaudits of the assembly. The Orator expressed an earnest hope that the young Prince Albert Victor, when, after long years, he came to the throne, might find all things quietly settled by the wisdom and courage of his predecessors—

Pacatumque regat patriis virtutibus orbem.

Honorary degrees were then conferred upon Lord Spencer, Lord A. Hervey, Lord Harris, and General Knollys, and the proceedings in the Senate-house were brought to a close by the presentation of medals to, and the recitation of prize poems by, successful competitors in the recent examination.

Friday's proceedings commenced with the Royal visit to King's College Chapel. At the close of the service the Royal party proceeded to the Senate House, where the degrees not conferred on the previous day were now to be awarded. The building was, if possible, fuller than on the previous day, and the undergraduates, grown more accustomed to the presence of royalty, were under less restraint in the utterance of their opinions. "Denmark" and "the Princess of Wales" were even more lustily cheered

than on the day before, and "Austria" quite as heartily groaned. It was a remarkable circumstance, and one creditable to undergraduate delicacy of perception, that on neither day was "Prussia" mentioned, either for praise or for blame. "The Queen," "the Princess Royal," and "the baby Prince," were all most loyally and cordially honoured. Lord Palmerston was loudly cheered, and his Foreign Secretary as loudly groaned, though, by an apparent inconsistency, when the name of Earl Russell was afterwards coupled with "Reform," the sentiment of the assembly was decidedly favourable. Messrs. Cobden and Bright had their full share of odium. Mr. Disraeli even was scarcely a prime favourite. The Chancellor conferred degrees on Earl Granville, Lord Carnarvon, and Lord Eversley. It was for Lord Palmerston that the full force of undergraduate enthusiasm was shown. The orator, in a few brief but telling sentences, presented himself as the Pilot who had weathered so many storms, as the man to whom the country intrusted its fortunes confidently in time of peace, but still more willingly in time of war. The noble Premier having retired amid the plaudits of the assembly, Lord Leigh, Sir E. B. Lytton, Sir W. Page Wood, Sir C. Eastlake, had the distinction conferred on them.

Then (says the *Standard*) came the scene of the day; and no pen can describe it. There was a perfect storm of cheers and a perfect storm of hisses when Mr. Clark took Dean Stanley by the hand to lead him to the centre of the dais; and for full five minutes he was hooted and cheered until one really could not tell whether there preponderated the approval or the disapprobation. But, cruel and trying as was the ordeal, the Dean stood it bravely. He did not blench; and when the Public Orator whispered to him, he smiled as if he rather enjoyed the scene than otherwise. The Prince and Princess looked very much concerned and rather annoyed, but not so the Dean. I believe he would have liked to turn and face his inarticulate accusers; but he was content to bide his time. Meanwhile the Chancellor tried to put down the tempest of hisses; but he was simply defied, and the expressions of disapprobation did not cease until lungs and chests were exhausted. Then Mr. Clark, who introduced into his speech some personal feeling, spoke of the Dean as tutor to "Principe nostro," which brought down another storm of mingled applause and censure.

The formula of admission was pronounced by the Chancellor, inaudibly however, from the roar in the galleries; and then came up in succession Mr. Beresford Hope, very well received; Dr. Watson, the President of the College of Physicians; Professor Hoffman, and Dr. Wheatstone, who were all excellently received. Then the business of the day was over, and with another intimation of disapproval of Dr. Stanley, in the shape of "three cheers for Canon Wordsworth," for whom, however, there were a few hisses, the Prince and Princess retired.

After luncheon their Royal Highnesses witnessed a procession of boats, next went to a flower show, and afterwards dined in the Royal apartments at Trinity College. On this occasion the Princess laid aside the sombre dress that she had worn during the previous portion of her visit, and appeared in rich evening costume of white, with headdress and necklace of brilliants.

On Saturday, shortly after 12 o'clock, the Prince and Princess paid a visit privately to the library of Trinity College. About half-past twelve the Royal party drove to Madingley Hall, the seat of Lady King, where during his stay at Cambridge as an undergraduate, his Royal Highness took up his residence. The Royal party left Cambridge by the Great Eastern Railway, the heads of colleges, who were supposed to have taken leave of their Royal Highnesses the previous evening, surprising the Royal party by attending at the railway to see them depart. At half-past three o'clock precisely the special train moved out of the terminus, and the Prince and Princess, as they quitted Cambridge, were cheered with not less enthusiasm than at any period during their stay.

Court, Official, and Personal News.

The Court is expected to reach Windsor from Balmoral this day.

It is stated in the Scotch papers that the weather in the north had been very cold and stormy, and for several days the hills were covered with snow. On Sunday week, the Rev. Dr. Lee, from Edinburgh, preached in the church of Crathie. The Royal pews were occupied by his Royal Highness Prince Arthur, her Royal Highness the Princess Helena, his Grace the Duke of Argyll, Lady Churchill, and several other ladies and gentlemen of the Court. The gallery pews were filled to overflowing. A most impressive sermon was preached by the Rev. Doctor from the first verse of the 23rd Psalm. On Tuesday, the Queen, accompanied by Miss Grey and other members of the Court, paid a visit to the Female School at Lochnagar. The gentlemen of the suite continue to prosecute the fishing in the Dee, but the severity of the weather has made the takes almost nominal. On Friday afternoon the Queen drove with the Princess Helena and Princess Leiningen to Alt-na-Guithusach.

The Prince of Wales held a levee at St. James's Palace on Wednesday, by command, and in the name of her Majesty. The presentations were exceedingly numerous, and as the weather was favourable a large crowd was collected in the parks to witness the arrivals. His Royal Highness, on his way to and from the Palace, was loudly cheered. On Thursday the Prince and Princess went down to Cambridge, returning to Marlborough House on Saturday evening. Yesterday they left for Frogmore Lodge.

The Lord Chamberlain has caused cards, by her Majesty's command, to be issued for a full-dress ball at Buckingham Palace on the 27th of June.

A Cabinet Council was held on Saturday afternoon. The Right Hon. Robert Lowe, M.P., was on Wednesday elected a trustee of the British Museum, in the room of the late Sir George Cornewall Lewis.

The Marquis of Bath having resigned the post of Conservative whipper-in, in consequence of the honour rendered to Garibaldi by the Earl of Derby, the *Evening Herald* states that Lord Hawarden has undertaken to assist Lord Colville in the House of Lords.

The Bishop of Exeter, who is eighty-seven years of age, conducted the diocesan ordination on Trinity Sunday.

On Monday evening the Prince and Princess of Wales gave a large dinner-party, and subsequently an evening party with music.

The union of two great English houses was effected on Tuesday by the marriage of the Hon. Frederick Stanley, son of the Earl of Derby, with Lady Constance Villiers, daughter of the Earl of Clarendon. The avenues and aisles of the church of St. Paul, Knightsbridge, were lined by 250 of the bridegroom's regiment (the Grenadier Guards), and there was a numerous attendance of the friends of both families, forming a brilliant assemblage.

The Duke of Sutherland has arrived at Corfu on board his yacht, accompanied by the Earl of Sefton.

The Duke of Argyll has become one of the vice-presidents of the Working Men's Club and Institute Union.

The Lord Lieutenant of Ireland has quite recovered from his recent indisposition. On Saturday he rode through the city on horseback. He was everywhere greeted in the warmest manner, the gentlemen raising their hats as he passed through the streets.

Law and Police.

DISTRICT PARISHES.—In the Court of Queen's Bench on Saturday the Court were occupied the greater part of the day with the case of *Sale v. Lievesey*, which raised a question, under the Church Building Acts, as to the right of a vicar of an old parish to a portion of the fees received at a new parish, formed out of a chapel district under those Acts. The plaintiff is the vicar of Sheffield; the defendant is perpetual curate of St. Philip's district church there. The parish of Sheffield is ancient, and there were by immemorial usage fees for churchings, marriages, and burials. In 1828 the chapel of St. Philip was erected, and a burial-ground attached to it was consecrated, with a reservation to the vicar of all his vicarial rights and dues, the chapel being merely intended as a "chapel of ease." In 1844 Sir R. Peel's Church Building Act passed, containing certain provisions for compensation to incumbents of old parishes on formation of new parishes. In 1848 there was an Order in Council, under the Old Church Building Acts, constituting the chapel a new district under those Acts, and giving the curate the marriage fees from and after the next avoidance of the vicarage of Sheffield, the mother parish, which in 1851 took place, on the death of Dr. Sutton, the then vicar. In 1856 "Lord Blandford's Act (19th and 20th Victoria) passed, under which the district was created a new parish, reserving, however, to the incumbent of the mother parish the fees received when the new district was created. In 1857 the fees for churchings and burials at St. Philip's were withheld from the incumbent of the mother parish, and he now sued to recover them. Mr. Badely (with him Mr. Forbes) argued on behalf of the vicar that he was entitled to the fees in dispute, belonging as they did to him by immemorial usage, and not being taken from him by the statutes. Mr. A. Stephen, Q.C. (with him Mr. Hubert Lewis), argued for the perpetual curate of St. Philip's that he was entitled to retain the fees in dispute, as the district had been created a new parish. The Court, however, were clear, after a long argument, that the vicar was entitled to the fees. It was not intended, they said, to take away from the incumbent of the mother parish when a new district was created the portion of the fees appropriated to him. In their opinion Sir R. Peel's Act did not affect that right, nor did Lord Blandford's Act; and in any such case the incumbent of the mother parish was entitled to recover the fees. Judgment for the plaintiff.

THE YELVERTON CASE.—The notorious Yelverton case is likely at last to be decided finally. On Friday the appeal of Major Yelverton against the decision of the Court of Session in Scotland declaring Mrs. Yelverton to be his wife, was opened in the House of Lords. Both appellant and respondent are represented by a formidable staff of counsel. Mr. Rolt, Q.C., opened Major Yelverton's case, and sketched his version of the affair. The case was resumed on Monday and Tuesday, and is not yet concluded.

PROBATE CASE.—EVIDENCE OF A CONVICT.—In a case (*Quick v. Quick* and *Quick*) in the Probate Court on Saturday the wife made an attempt to prove the substance of her husband's will. The facts were peculiar. The house in which Mr. and Mrs. Quick lived at Haverstock-hill had been broken into, and a jewel-case and a dressing-case had been stolen. The plaintiff's case was, that the will in question had been mislaid in the dressing-case by the deceased, and had been destroyed by the burglar. Charles Kembell was called to prove this part of the case. He is now a convict at Portland, and was brought up in the prison dress and in the custody of an officer. He stated that on the 16th of October, 1862, in the middle of the day, while the family were at dinner, he had climbed up to a balcony by a portico in the front of Mr. Quick's house, and had made his way into a bedroom and taken away a jewel-case and a dressing-case. He found some rings and jewels, &c., in the jewel-case, and in the dressing-case a small parcel of papers, which he gave to a friend to see if there was any paper money among them. There was no paper money, but there was a large paper in an envelope with "H. Quick," and "This is my will," written upon it. His friend read it and wished to keep it, but he took it from him and put it into the fire for fear it might lead

to his detection. Cross-examined.—"The police were after me at the time for numerous robberies that I had committed in the same neighbourhood with the help of a gig and a fleet horse. I was afterwards convicted and sentenced for one of the robberies. . . . I am quite certain that one of the documents I destroyed was a will. . . . I can distinctly speak to the destruction of at least six such wills by me under the circumstances aforesaid." There is a question whether the testator's mind was not affected by a railway accident which he had encountered; and upon all the points, which included some of a technical character, the Court reserved its decision.

Miscellaneous News.

THE HAY HARVEST.—The hay harvest has already commenced in South Wales. On Monday a large field of well-seasoned hay was gathered at Llanelly, Carmarthenshire, and on Thursday morning had commenced near Haverfordwest. The crops this year look remarkably well, and are of full average quality.

THE EARLSWOOD ASYLUM FOR IDIOTS.—A grand bazaar on behalf of the Earlswood Asylum for Idiots, under the patronage of the Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Duchess of Cambridge, and other distinguished personages, is to be held at the Hanover-square Rooms on Saturday, the 2nd; Monday, the 4th; and Tuesday, the 5th of July. The Prince and Princess of Wales have graciously consented to visit the bazaar on the Saturday, at twelve o'clock.

THE CORPORATION DWELLINGS FOR THE WORKING CLASSES IN FARRINGTON-ROAD.—The plot of ground appropriated by the Corporation of London for the erection of several substantial and convenient buildings for the industrious classes in Farringdon-road, near Ray-street, is now being cleared, the contractor being under arrangement with the Improvement Committee of the Corporation to complete the building as speedily as possible.

THE MOVEMENT FOR AN ADVANCE OF WAGES in the building trades seems to be spreading from one town to another throughout the country. Birmingham, Manchester, Leeds, and other smaller towns, have had their turn. The joiners of Sheffield are on the eve of a strike, and those of Huddersfield have declined to work, their employers having refused to make concessions to their men similar to those obtained by the Leeds joiners a week or two ago.

ROBBERY BY CHLOROFORM IN A RAILWAY TRAIN. Last week a gentleman took his place in a first-class smoking carriage, on the Tilbury and Southend line, at the Fenchurch-street station, in which were two other passengers, apparently gentlemen. As soon as the train had started, one of them waved a pocket-handkerchief before the gentleman's face, and he was instantly deprived of speech and power of action (although conscious of what was passing), and while in that condition the two fellows took his purse, containing, besides other money, eight sovereigns in gold; they also took a valuable gold ring from his right-hand little finger; and, just as the train had left Plaistow station, they were in the act of taking his watch and appendages, but the sudden stoppage of the train prevented them, and they hastily left the carriage. It was not known till the train reached the Barking station, when the gentleman was so far recovered as to be able to alight and communicate the robbery to the station-master, by whom information was given to the police, but no clue to the robbers has been obtained.—*Essex Standard*.

Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

CITY, Tuesday Evening.

There have been no important changes in the money market during the week. The anticipated reduction of the rate of discount was not made by the Bank Directors last Thursday. The official minimum still remains therefore at 7 per cent.

The price of Consols has somewhat fallen since the quotations last week. The last prices quoted to-day were 90 to $\frac{1}{2}$ for Money, and 90 $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ for the July Account.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Friday's Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending Wednesday, June 1.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.	
Notes issued ..	£28,035,020
Government Debt	£11,015,100
Other Securities ..	8,834,900
Gold Coin & Bullion	13,385,020
	£28,035,020
BANKING DEPARTMENT.	
Proprietors' Capital	£14,553,000
Reserve	8,251,547
Public Deposits	8,286,719
Other Deposits	12,493,776
Seven Day and other	
Bills	459,405
	£30,047,447
June 2, 1864.	M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—WRONGS MADE RIGHT.—Every day that any bodily suffering is permitted to continue renders it more certain to become chronic or dangerous. Holloway's purifying, cooling, and strengthening pills are well adapted for any irregularity of the human body, and should be taken when the stomach is disordered, the liver deranged, the kidneys inactive, the bowels torpid, or the brain muddled. With this medicine every invalid can cure himself, and those who are weak and infirm through imperfect digestion may make themselves stout and strong by Holloway's excellent pills. A few doses of them usually mitigate the most painful symptoms caused by undigested food from which they thoroughly free the alimentary canal, and completely restore its natural power and action.

Literature.

PALEARIO: "THE ITALIAN REFORMATION."

Some exception may be taken to the title of this interesting little volume. *Has* there been an "Italian Reformation"? And if there has not, how are we to have a "chapter" in its "history"? Italy, unhappily, is one of those countries which, smothering in their bosom the good "Word of God," reap to this day the bitter fruits of that wretched triumph of iniquity. Very sad have been the lessons given in history, that nations, no less than individuals, may "quench the Spirit," and that their corporate life may thus be doomed to barrenness and desolation. Italy had her Savonarola, her Ochino, her Paleario, and others, through whom she might have received regeneration; she cast them forth from her, or consigned them to the scaffold and the stake; and three centuries had to roll heavily and painfully away ere another opportunity was presented to her.

Aonio Paleario was born at Veroli, in Central Italy, in the year 1503. His was one of those generous, ardent minds, which received the full impulse imparted to Europe by the revival of classical literature. Latin and Greek were to him, as to many, the channels of new mental and spiritual life. He never entered the "Church," but served the cause of Christian truth as a man of letters. Unlike Erasmus, he gave his deepest and most enthusiastic allegiance to religion; and it was because he refused to confine himself to those graceful amenities of literature in which he was so well qualified by natural tastes and accomplishments to shine, that, after an honourable and courageous life, he fell a victim to the Inquisition in the year 1570.

During the earlier part of his career, while resident at Padua, Siena, and other places, the life of a man like Paleario was in less peril. His accomplished scholarship, and his eloquence, caught from the breathing page of Tully, gained for him the friendship and protection of various influential patrons of letters; and it was not till towards the middle of the sixteenth century that the war of opinion attained to that frightful pitch of embitterment and desperation which over so large a portion of Europe rendered all expression of freedom of opinion simply impossible. The turning point in Paleario's career appears in some respects to have been his publication of a theological treatise "Concerning the Benefit of Christ's Death," in the vernacular. This treatise was published anonymously, and its authorship has been much debated; but on M. Bonnet's showing, there is satisfactory reason for ascribing it to Paleario. The sentiments it expresses—strongly opposed to all notions of "salvation by works" of man or priest—were explicitly defended and avowed by himself; and that, too, with reference to a work, acknowledged to be his own, the general description of which is precisely applicable to the *De Beneficio*. The treatise was several times reprinted, and it is calculated that not fewer than 40,000 copies of it were circulated in the Peninsula in the course of a few years. "Destroyed with fury" by the Inquisition, and having disappeared "from Italy for three centuries," it has recently been resuscitated—through the fortunate discovery of a copy of the original edition at Cambridge—and reprinted for circulation. We cannot help seeing that Italy was then "not far" from the kingdom of God, when teaching so pure, and in the highest sense evangelical, was so eagerly caught at and embraced.

To become recognised as one who would hail an abolition of long-established abuses in doctrine and ecclesiastical order, was enough to attract to a man a concentration of hostilities. In the case of Paleario, private animosities seem to have made common cause with public vested interests endangered by the truthful, manly expostulations of such as he. He was driven in the first instance from Perugia to Siena; at Siena he was first excluded from a professorial chair for which there could be no doubt he was incomparably better qualified than the ignorant obscurantist elected instead of him, and afterwards brought to trial on a charge of heresy. When standing before his judges on this occasion, he dared in courageous, and at the same time judicious, language to express his sympathy with the noble movement then being inaugurated across the Alps. But justice and candour had not yet been totally extinguished by the gall and venom of priestcraft and religious strife, and Paleario was acquitted. This was about the year 1546. Shortly afterwards he removed to Lucca, where he was

appointed Professor of Eloquence. He remained in that position for some eight or nine years, when he was once more compelled to fly,—this time to Milan, where his reputation for scholarship again secured him a professorial chair. But the accursed "Holy Office" was striking its poisonous roots deeper and deeper, and extending its influence wider and wider; and it could not rest so long as there was one man at large—much more in a post of honour and emolument—who had not "bowed the knee to Baal" by renouncing all complicity with the new wishes and aspirations that had been aroused in Europe. One victim after another fell before them, and Paleario was at last summoned to Rome—in his 67th year—to answer a charge of heresy. There was no escape this time, and the venerable scholar and Christian was consigned to the scaffold, his body to be immediately afterwards reduced to ashes. Such was the end of one of the noblest, most disinterested, most unblemished lives which Italy was honoured to witness in the sixteenth century. We can only trust that his name may yet be a power with his countrymen, now that Italy is again awaking. She cannot do better than order her forward movements in the spirit of Aonio Paleario.

We do not know whether the blame belongs to the author or the translator, but we note that the translations given of parts of Paleario's Latin speeches and letters is more loose and "free" than was desirable. Thus, where Paleario says—expressing himself in Latin pure and vigorous as Cicero's—"Non ita ferreus sum quin acerbitas quædam doloris commemorations eorum a quibus divulsus videor, (non?) recrudescat," we have the diluted rendering, "I am not made of iron, neither is my heart stoical enough, not to grieve at the thought of the friends I must leave behind." Also we noticed somewhere an unfortunate allusion to "Cataline and Verres," and a statement—for which we should vastly like to know the authority—that the Epicurean work of Lucretius, in refutation of which Paleario wrote his now extinct poem, "De Immortalitate Animi"—was written "in the crisis of the dissolution of the ancient social system of the Romans, between the proscriptions of Marius and those of Sylla" (p. 49). Epicureanism is too congenial to a self-indulgent, corrupt nature, to need that a purely arbitrary hypothesis should be framed to account for its being cast into a poetical shape among such a community as that which existed in Rome any time subsequent to the close of the Punic Wars.

We have not compared the translation with the original; but to judge from internal evidence, it is on the whole carefully and correctly executed. We notice an awkward use of the phrase, "so to say," which implies a rather too servile following of the exact words of the original. Such sentences as, "This man born (so to say) with the age of the Medici" (p. 1.) and "the book *De Beneficio Christi*, rising anew (so to say) from the ashes of the stake," are little short of barbarous. Still these, and other defects which we might particularise, are not of a nature to detract seriously from the worth of a book which we trust will be extensively circulated and read.

DR. BUSHNELL'S ESSAYS AND ADDRESSES.*

Dr. Bushnell is so well known to our readers that little more is needful than that we should indicate the general character of the contents of the volume brought out under the somewhat vague title, "Work and Play." These words, which express the subject of one of the essays, form no bad motto for the whole. Lighter as they are, than Dr. Bushnell's previously published and directly theological writings, there is yet such a mingling of grave thought with familiar, every-day matter, that those who take it up in search of "play" exclusively or chiefly will find that it is play presupposing and demanding no small exercise and discipline of the sturdier elements of our nature. A very pleasant paper is that headed "The Age of 'Homespun,'" a "Secular Sermon," delivered at the Centennial Celebration of Litchfield County. It deals with phases of life rapidly passing away; and it is well to have delineations of them conceived with so much unaffected, manly sympathy as is evinced in these. It is the kind of life so vividly depicted in those well-known young people's stories, "Queechy," and "The Wide, Wide World";—with its homely log farm-houses, its quaint social gatherings, its fragrant stores of home-grown fruits, and its wholesome domestic morality. There are many passages in this paper which tempt us to extract. Take the following for example:—

"If our sons and daughters should assemble a hundred years hence to hold another celebration like this, they

will scarcely be able to imagine the Arcadian pictures now so fresh in the memory of many of us, though to the younger part already matters of hearsay, more than of personal knowledge or remembrance. Everything that was most distinctive of the old homespun mode of life will then have passed away. The spinning-wheels of wool and flax, that used to buzz so familiarly in the childish ears of some of us, will be heard no more for ever; seen no more, in fact, save in the halls of the Antiquarian Societies, where the delicate daughters will be asking, what those strange machines are, and how they are made to go? The huge, hewn-timber looms, that used to occupy a room by themselves in the farm-houses, will be gone, cut up for cord-wood, and their heavy thwack, beating up the woof, will be heard no more by the passers-by, not even the Antiquarian Halls will find room to harbour a specimen. The long strips of linen, bleaching on the grass, and tended by a sturdy maiden, sprinkling them each hour from her water-can under a broiling sun—thus to prepare the Sunday linen for her brothers' and her own wedding outfit—will have disappeared, save as they return to fill a picture in some novel or ballad of the old time. The tables will be spread with some cunning water-power Silesia not yet invented, or perchance with some meaner fabric from the cotton-mills. The heavy Sunday coats that grew on sheep individually remembered—more comfortably carried, in warm weather, on the arm—and the specially fine-striped blue and white pantaloons of linen just from the loom, will no longer be conspicuous in processions of footmen going to their homespun worship, but will have given place to processions of broadcloth gentlemen loling in the upholstery of their coaches, able to worship, it may be, in a more cultivated figure, but not with a purer sincerity. The churches, too, that used to be simple brown meeting-houses covered with rived clapboards of oak, will have come down, mostly, from the bleak hill-tops into the close villages and populous towns that crowd the waterfalls and the railroads; and the old burial-places, where the fathers sleep, will be left to their lonely altitude—token, shall we say, of an age that lived as much nearer to heaven and as much less under the world. The change will be complete. Would that we might raise some worthy monument to a social state then to be passed by, worthy in all future time to be held in the dearest remembrance."—P. 48—50.

In graver mood is cast the essay entitled, "Life, or the Lives." Here we recognise more definitely the author of "Nature and the Super-natural." Its leading purpose is to show how each life of an organic being is a kind of spiritual unity, having virtue to override the laws of inferior, inorganic matter, and use it for its own ends and according to the laws of its organism. The opinion expressed by Dr. Carpenter in his admirable treatise upon Animal Physiology, that nothing is gained by the assumption of some vital principle distinct from the organised structure itself, is somewhat severely animadverted upon. But perhaps the collision between the two opinions is rather apparent than real. Science has to do with facts that are capable of being observed and expressed in material phraseology; as such it has nothing to do with a metaphysical cause of phenomena. It would be well if our physiologists—as, for example, Mr. Darwin, in connection with his well-known theory—would clear themselves of suspicion in these directions, by explicitly defining and limiting the scope of their speculations; and until they do so they ought not to be surprised if they are popularly supposed to deny what they ignore. Such teaching as that of the present lecture is admirably adapted to counteract that materialism which science, from its habit (and even principle) of resting in second causes, not unfrequently develops. Seeing how life differs in all its most characteristic features from the functions of inorganic matter; how "inertia," "heat, chemical affinity, gravity itself," all are subjected to an invisible entity which science refuses to recognise; we are helped to believe in those spiritual forces and existences outside of us with which religion deals. The remaining papers in this volume are entitled, "The Day of Roads," also, we suppose, a "Secular Sermon," in which the suggestions of our modern developments of locomotion are worked out with much life and force; "The Growth of Law," "City Plans," "The Doctrine of Loyalty working itself out in America,"—in which Loyalty is shown to be a sentiment attaching itself not necessarily more to an individual than a system or constitution; and "Religious Music":—there is not one of these which will not well repay perusal.

THE PERIODICALS.

It happens that the present month brings us two quarterlies, which do not appear with others of their kindred. The *North British Review* has no paper of very great present interest—that on "Our Foreign Policy" being chiefly a defence of Earl Russell, to whom we allow much of the praise given, while we miss everything like large-minded discussion of the principles of a foreign policy for England. The article on "Lord Elgin" gives an impressive image of the character of that really fine man, and supplies a discerning and true-hearted *In Memoriam*. Students of language will find much that is valuable in the paper on "The Old Anglo-Scottish Dialect." An admirable specimen of an essay of the highest order in natural philosophy will be found in the pages bearing the monosyllabic title, "Energy," which sketch briefly the Laws of Energy, and the history

* Aonio Paleario. A Chapter in the History of the Italian Reformation. From the French of M. BONNET. London: Religious Tract Society.

* Work and Play. By HORACE BUSHNELL, D.D. London: Strahan.

of their discovery. Passing by reviews of attractive books of the day, we may name lastly the article on "Christian Missions," written comprehensively, ably, and impartially, and closing with these fitly-spoken words:—

"Are we then rising to the level of our opportunity? Let us remember the so-called 'dark ages,'—the Abbot Columba, the monk Augustine, and the thousands who rushed from Irish cells and walled huts on lonely isles; or the Romish priests and knights and scholars who followed Xavier to the East, or Nobrega to Paraguay; and as we think of their zeal and courage, and sacrifice and faith, and love of souls and love of our Lord, if these were children of darkness, are we walking as children of the light? It is worth a little serious consideration whether our 'clear views' and committees and collections present after all so grand a spectacle, or do so great a work, as the brave and solemn enthusiasm of these great-hearted men."

The *Bibliotheca Sacra* has carefully studied and almost exhaustive articles on "The Genuineness of the Fourth Gospel," by Professor Fisher, of Yale, and on "The Author of the Apocalypse," by the better-known and well-practised critic, Professor R. D. Robbins. The most generally interesting portion of the contents is "The Rise and Progress of Monasticism," by the accomplished Church historian, Dr. Schaff. And we will only further particularise the completion of the article commenced in the previous number, on "Charles Wesley and Methodist Hymns"—in which our greatest devotional poet receives the justice which perhaps indiscriminating denominational praise, rather than either prejudice or neglect, has caused to be to a large extent denied him. The *Bibliotheca* is again welcomed by us, as having a worthily sustained character to which no similar publication attains.

Blackwood has for its political article, "The Crisis of Parties"—a virulent attack on Mr. Gladstone, for his "rebellion against the Whigs," and "open defiance" of the authority of his chiefs. The writer "will not do him the injustice to suppose that his convictions are in accordance with his language": his speech was only "a piece of political jugglery—a fresh example of that immorality which he affected to censure":—"If he can become the leader of the Liberal party of the future, what matters it if he cannot act up to his present professions?" In this base spirit is the whole article written. We are glad to say that in the "Chronicles of Carlingford" there is a clearing-up of the poor transparent mystery about Rosa Ellsworth, and "The Perpetual Curate" is delivered from his enemies. We cannot see in all the story any living personality in the characters, or any truth, but the most superficial, in the entire tangled web of the story. If an exception be made, it should be for Miss Wodehouse, and her part in the story. "Mr. Cornelius O'Dowd on Things in General" is more amusing than ever, shrewder and sounder than ever, except when he touches Parliament and foreign politics. "Eton" is treated of from the evidence of "The Public Schools Report," and it is admitted that "moderate reforms" are necessary. The paper is very well written;—the remaining contents call for no special remark.

Fraser, also, has an article on "Public Schools," founded on the Report of the Commission, which, admitting how much is unsatisfactory in the existing system, anticipates no more than "slow reforms," believes none other possible in the nature of the case; but thinks it certain that the "intelligent and experienced opinion" which has now been collected and forcibly expressed, will secure "an Eton of the future with finer features than the Eton of the past." The new story, "Gilbert Rugge," is of good artistic quality, its description of a scene, its sketch of a personal appearance, or its indication of details, being always free, clear, and strong; while the materials have much novelty and their management a true and growing interest. The article on "Capital Punishments" usefully points out the absurdity of, and suggests a remedy for, our present system of committing the final inquiry into the guilt of persons capitally convicted to the hands of a man having no judicial experience; and the writer supposes that were his proposed arrangements adopted, "all the real objections to the infliction of capital punishment might be removed." One of his opinions, however, seems to be that punishment by death has been "unadvisedly restricted in its operation by a natural reaction against the barbarity of former times." We find much breadth of knowledge and power of hand to acknowledge in the masterly paper on "Three Years of War in America," but do not sympathise with the opinion or feeling that sometimes seems to underlie it. Justly does the writer say that the events of these three years have "surprised and disappointed" those on all sides, and that they teach us "modesty in prophecies, and moderation in political theories." "French Life," and a "Campaigner at Home," are continued, and are light enough to be simply amusing, while they have much information for those who are willing to gather it as they go along.

The *Cornhill* contains the last fragments of Mr. Thackeray's "Denis Duval," with extracts from his note-book and his letters to his publishers, showing what was intended to be the general development of the story, and what remarkable care he took in the collection and verification of all materials to be wrought into his work, so as to make the story true. The Editor makes a few remarks on these points, and maintains, as

we can now agree more readily than when only two or three chapters of this tale were before us, that Thackeray's genius "is not a whit less great, it is only broader, 'more soft, more mellow and kindly,' in this than in his great finished works. "The Red Shirt in Calabria" might furnish numerous extracts had we space for them; and will speak to the lively sympathy of almost all readers. "The Story of a Spoilt Life" is a sketch of the sculptor Behnes, whose life, notwithstanding many noble achievements, was wasted in struggles with gratuitous difficulties, and closed in poverty, distress, and a deathbed in the Middlesex Hospital. "The Church as a Profession," as might be expected, is an article from which all the higher and more spiritual views of the work of a Christian pastor are wholly absent; although it admits that the question of the nature of the occupation and the talents that it requires, is one which should subordinate to itself the question of professional reward. There is much truth in what is said of the average clergy life, and of what constitutes the conventional fitness for it. It is not, however, a large or lofty view of the moral aspects of the ministerial office or a rich experience of its work and fruit, that seems to be implied in such statements as, that not only (as is true) has a clergyman "no definite relations with 'any one,' and 'no definite duties,' but, further, that 'he works in the dark,' that 'no particular effect can be referred to any one act,' and that 'a man with 'quick sympathies, business-like habits, and some 'power of expression, has pretty nearly all the intellectual gifts that an average clergyman requires.' And we make this remark even with the last paragraph of the article before us, in which the writer points out that a really considerable man who believes he has "matters of infinite importance to teach," and that a pulpit is the place to teach them, will treat all professional considerations as mere cobwebs; while any one who should find himself incapable of sacrifices for it, ought to feel that he has "no vocation to so great an office." It is not flattering to those engaged in the "profession" to be told "that there is no other in which mediocrity is so 'tolerable'; though it may encourage aspirants to reflect that no other 'can be approached so cheaply, or affords so sure and immediate a return for the money 'laid out in entering upon it.' And there seems a little gall in the saying, that the Church—that is, the Established Church—is "not a very bad profession for 'the sort of man who is anxious to be considered a 'gentleman, and who, if he had been employed by a 'bustling shopkeeper, could never have had any chance 'of being taken into partnership.'—although, of the ministry of every religious community it is in a measure true. The following remarks on sermons are too sensible and too largely true to be omitted here,—and our readers, whether preachers or hearers, may try and work out their own conclusion from them:—

"It is certain that the common run of sermons can never have been much better or much worse than they are, and it is curious that people should be surprised at their quality. The sermon is to last half-an-hour, and there are to be two a week. Any ordinary sermon would, if printed, fill, perhaps, ten pages of this magazine; and thus the sermons of two clergymen preaching twice every Sunday for a month would fill a number, and fill it with general reflections on religion and morality. Is there anyone in England, however brilliant, profound, or learned, who could produce that amount of original matter for any length of time, if he gave up his whole mind to the composition of the sermons and to the reading necessary to produce them? Probably no one could do it for a year; but to suppose that some 20,000 people will go on doing it for all the years of their life, is to indulge a hope which is altogether chimerical. The truth is, that not one man in a thousand is capable of making interesting reflections at all. Any ordinary conversation turns almost entirely upon facts, and upon observations or arguments about them. If a man does diverge into generalities, it is rarely possible to listen to him with satisfaction; yet, with regard to the clergy, it is expected, or, rather, the complaints against their sermons seem to imply that it is expected, that they should be able constantly to produce matter worth attending to at a rate at which the greatest genius could hardly produce it, and in relation to a subject which nothing but genius can handle in such a manner as to command attention. The really remarkable point about sermons is that there are so many preachers who do succeed in getting a certain kind of attention from their hearers, and in exercising a perceptible influence over many of their minds."

The *Eclectic* has a full sketch of the life of "Joseph Sturge," founded on Richard's excellent biography, of which we hope to give a review next week. In "The Poems of Mr. Caxton," Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton has found a genial and discerning critic of his poetical works; especially of *The Boatman*, which is its main subject. Several other careful and interesting reviews make up this number—that on "Carlyle's Friedrich" being more than respectfully admiring. The "Congregational Topic" takes the form of a supposed address to the late meeting of the Union, which might have been delivered in place of the address of Mr. Allen; which, however, the writer praises for high qualities, but considers to have been less suited to the occasion than the theme he himself here takes up, viz., "Is 'Congregationalism a Lost Mission?' It is maintained that Congregationalism is declining; and very seriously important considerations are warmly urged. Remedies are also pointed out, and efforts to raise the cause suggested. We do not share all the writer's opinions and anticipations; and do not altogether like the effect of the playful, flashy manner, and the bits of imitation Carlylese, in which he has indulged himself. There is,

however, matter for grave pondering; and it is unquestionably a living and earnest spirit that pervades the article.

The *Christian Spectator* has, besides continuations, two or three valuable or noticeable papers: one, a thoughtful exposition, on "The Appearances of Christ after His Resurrection," another, "Thoughts on 'Shakspeare-Worship,' with which we have so much of sympathy as to be glad that these thoughts are frankly and forcibly expressed, although we think the writer hardly does justice to the religiousness of Shakspeare, as it may be inferred from the introduction of religious thought, of Christian truth most inwardly apprehended, and of Biblical expressions, to an extent far beyond that required for the reflection of 'every 'phase of human life and thought' in his dramas. But the two papers that will attract most immediate attention are those on "The Related Positions of the 'English Church and Dissent,' and on the recent 'Congregational Union Meetings.' The former says plainly and courageously some things much needing to be said; but, after thoughtfully glancing at the past, reaches a far too general conclusion, viz.: that "Modern Dissent is a mere negation to the Church 'by law established—a satellite to it as primary—'denying certain of its asseverations, while, as a 'whole, in spirit and ideas, it has been slavishly 'subservient,' and then passes over (rather loosely we think) to the present tendency amongst Dissenters 'more and more to lower the status of the pastor, and 'to exalt that of the popular delegate or lay deacon.' The writer admits 'the increasing degradation of the 'ministry'; and attributes it to 'the ease with which 'every half-instructed adventurer, who has enough of 'glib volubility, can rise to the highest posts of English 'Dissent,' and to 'the unconstitutional supremacy 'exercised by the diaconate'; and he proposes next month to treat Scripturally and historically the question, Who are the proper judges of ministerial qualification? We are curious to see. The other paper, on the Congregational Meetings, is remarkably plain-spoken, and will assuredly gain the entire assent of all the haters of oblique and refusers of theological authority amongst the Independents, treating boldly as it does that most dangerous precedent, to which Mr. Binney called attention at the Union meeting, of the publication, in the name of the Union, of a manual for the churches, without request or sanction from the Union whose name it bears. Perhaps our outspoken *Spectator* might have said all that was necessary in words less likely to wound or irritate persons at whom he felt obliged to point; but it was so delicate and difficult a thing to say at all, that we are hardly entitled to criticise. That he has expressed a very wide-spread and deep-rooted feeling is not to be questioned.

The *Museum* will, we fear, prove too devoted to the inspectors and managers of schools receiving State-aid. It has, however, papers of general educational interest, such as those on the results of "The Cambridge Local Examination of Girls," and the illustration in detail of "An Examination under the Revised Code." The case against "Eton School Books" might be made stronger. Perhaps the "Notes and Queries" form one of the most useful features of the magazine, so far as teachers may consult it. Something more than is attained in this number is needful to a popular, permanent, and influential educational periodical.

The *Alexandra Magazine* has put forth two numbers only; and is intended to be not only a ladies' magazine generally, but specially "woman's social and industrial 'advocate.' These numbers place it at once in the forefront of periodicals of its class. Mrs. Sewell, Mr. Bayly, Mrs. Meredith, and Miss Bessie Parkes, are amongst the contributors. The "Letters to Women on Money-earning," and on "Benefit Societies," and such essay-like papers as "The Virtuous Woman," "Getting 'Well," and "The English Gentlewoman," have more than a passing interest. "Doctor Kemp" is a well-commenced story. We heartily wish success to this newly-launched periodical; having a definite purpose and sustained by the best literary ability that has ever served that purpose, it ought to become a power in its own sphere.

It is principally by contributions continued from month to month that the *Family Treasury* maintains its firm hold on the sympathies of our households,—and it deserves to do so, in every way.—*Chambers's* is varied, strong, delightful, instructive:—it has a new story, "Lord Lynn's Wife," written with knowledge and power, of which nine chapters are here completed.—*Christian Work* deserves once more to be named, that we may call attention to the valuable articles on "Theology in Holland," on "Jewish Ladies and their 'Charities in London," and to its remarkably interesting information—much more suitable for quickening, pious, and practical feeling at the missionary prayer-meeting, or for supplying materials to those who plead from the platform the wants of the world and the claims of Christ, than any of the ordinary missionary magazines.—*Good Words, Our Own Fireside, the English-woman's Journal, the Baptist Magazine, the Baptist Reporter, the Evangelical, the Leisure Hour, and Sunday at Home,* have no specialities requiring present notice.—*The Christian Observer* deteriorates; is strong only in gusts of the worse spirit of religious controversial writing. Such a number as the present certainly

does not speak to educated and liberal minds.—*Every Boy's Magazine* is capital as ever, and is in our judgment the most interesting and useful of boys' magazines; although a little too fast and sensational, following therein the general tendency of the time.

The Musical Monthly holds its own,—and we hope will extend its circle and grow in excellence. Mr. Shirley Hibberd's *Gardener's Weekly Magazine* is always welcome to us; and no one who has a strip of garden or loves flowers should be without it. Many of our readers will be glad to know that this part contains most useful papers on "Trees for Town Gardens."

LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

John Clare, the Northamptonshire poet, died last week in the Northampton Asylum, of which he had been many years an inmate.

Sir Edwin Landseer's picture at the Royal Academy, depicting a "Piper and Pair of Nutcrackers," has been bought by Mr. Huish for 1,700*l*.

Mr. O'Neill's picture of the landing of the Princess Alexandra has been purchased by Messrs. Agnew for 2,000*l*.

It is stated that "George Elliot" has another novel in hand.

The *France* announces that Prince Napoleon is preparing a work on the history and writings of the Imperial family.

Following the example of Mr. Tenniel, Mr. Leech is preparing for the press a volume of his Political Cartoons.

A collection of "Essays on Religion and Literature," edited by H. E. Manning, D.D., will shortly be ready for publication by Messrs. Longman in one vol. The List of the Essays is as follows:—1. "Introductory." By Cardinal Wiseman. 2. "Influence of the Church on Art in the Dark Ages." By Daniel Rock, D.D., F.R.S. 3. "The Subjects proper to the Academia." By H. E. Manning, D.D. 4. "Birthplace of S. Patrick." By Cashel Hoey. 5. "On the Position of a Catholic Minority in a Non-Catholic Country." By Frederick Oakley, M.A. 6. "On Bishop Colenso's Linguistic Objections to the Inspiration of Holy Writ." By Francis Henry Laing. 7. "On the Corroboration of Things supposed to be Legendary by Modern Research." By Cardinal Wiseman. 8. "On Christianity in Relation to Civil Society." By Edward Lucas.

Messrs. Smith, Elder, and Co., have published a translation of "Mazzini's Autobiography and Works." The first volume is autobiographical and political.

Of religious publications announced during the week the most important are:—"The Apostle Paul and the Christian Church at Philippi. An Exposition of the 16th Chapter of the Acts of the Apostles, &c." By the late J. F. Todd. (Deighton, Bell, and Co.) "The Christ of the Gospels compared with the Christ of Modern Criticism. A series of Lectures on M. Rénan's 'Vie de Jésus.'" By John Tulloch, D.D. (Macmillan.) "Directorium Pastorale. The Theory and the Practice of Pastoral Work in the Church of England." By the Rev. John Henry Blunt. "Lectures on the Book of Common Prayer." By the Rev. F. C. Massingberd, M.A. Rivington's. Huntington's Sermons for the People. A. Miall.

Messrs. Sampson Low and Co. have in the press a new work by Mr. P. Barry, entitled "The Dockyards, Shipyards, and Marine of France." Mr. Barry has visited the French dockyards, and French ironclads, under the authority of the Minister of Marine.

The London Library reports, that during the past twelve months 1,060 volumes and 21 pamphlets, in addition to donations from the Prince of Wales and others, have been added to the library, and that 30,150 volumes have been issued to the members. In order to increase the value and utility of the library, the reading-room is in future to be open to the members of subscribers' families on payment of a small subscription. The accounts show a gain of 200*l*. in the receipts, to April, 1864.—*Athenæum*.

Her Majesty, on the recommendation of Lord Palmerston, has been graciously pleased to confer upon Mr. Kenny Meadows, the artist, a pension of 80*l*. a year, in consideration of the merit displayed in his "Illustrated Shakespeare," and other well-known works.

Gleanings.

The Sheffield Inundation Fund has closed, 48,000*l*. having been raised.

A confectioner of Bath has brought his business to such perfection that he is now offering to the public his candid opinion.

The apex of Hellvellyn and the higher summits in neighbourhood of Ullswater were covered with snow on Tuesday morning.

The new Blackfriars station of the London, Chatham, and Dover line, and the temporary bridge, were both opened on Wednesday.

It is stated that a gentleman who won 3,000*l*. by the unexpected success of Blair Athol for the Derby was instantly seized with paralysis of the left side, on hearing the news.

At the University College Hospital, on the 21st of May, a dressmaker from 13, Fitzroy-place, aged twenty-eight years, died from "delirium tremens" following a cut of the knee from falling on a steel crinoline.

An incorrigible young rascal was sent to prison for six months, at Liverpool, on Monday, for breaking into the house of his grandmother, and for the twentieth time robbing the old lady of a considerable sum of money.

The Mackay gun is to be transferred to Shoeburyness for the purpose of carrying out experiments on an extended scale.

The following singular announcement recently appeared in the *New York Herald*:—"Six bridesmaids and groomsmen wanted by a couple about to be married, who have but a few friends in this city, and wish

to be handsomely united. To respectable parties a fair compensation will be given. Address," &c.

During the past winter the Niagara Falls are said to have been completely frozen over for the first time in the memory of man. For twenty-four hours it was safe walking where usually flows an impetuous flood.

In the *Times* of yesterday we observe an advertisement of "Little Sunshine" a book which is recommended to notice by the *Christian Witness* after the following fashion:—"A tale to be read to very young children, with coloured borders, engraved frontispiece, and vignette fancy cover." We should like to see these children.

Obituary.

SIR JOHN WATSON GORDON, P.R.S.A., AND R.A.—The *Scotsman* announces the decease of this distinguished artist, the President of the Royal Scottish Academy.

MR. NASSAU W. SENIOR.—The daily papers record the death of Mr. Nassau William Senior, late Master in Chancery, and Professor of Political Economy in the University of Oxford since 1825. For some years he held the office of examiner in Political Economy in the University of London. He has written many works on the science to the pursuit of which he devoted his life, and has contributed to the *Quarterly*, *Edinburgh*, and other Reviews. An article from his pen appears in the current number of the *Victoria Magazine*—the last, probably, which he ever wrote. Mr. Senior was 72 years of age.

NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE.—A very large number of Englishmen will feel deep regret at the unexpected death of Mr. Nathaniel Hawthorne—one of the most kindly and genial of American writers—a pleasant novelist and a popular member of English society when he occupied an official position in this country. Mr. Hawthorne died almost suddenly. He had been in bad health for some time, but no one expected that the end was so near. He was travelling for the benefit of his health in company with Mr. Franklin Pierce, formerly President of the United States. On the 19th of May Mr. Hawthorne was found dead in his bed. He died in his 64th year. Mr. Hawthorne's reputation will chiefly rest on his "Scarlet Letter," and the "House of the Seven Gables." "The Blithedale Romance" (1862) was popular in America; but the "Life of Pierce" was his most successful work. Among the numerous works which he has published may be mentioned "Tanglewood Tales," "True Stories from History and Biography," "The Wonder Book for Boys and Girls," &c.

WILLIAM JOHNSON FOX.—The late M.P. for Oldham, and distinguished public speaker, died at his residence in London, on Friday last, in his 78th year. His father was originally a small farmer at Uggeshall, near Wrentham, in Suffolk, where the future advocate of Free-trade was born in 1786. Shortly after the boy's birth, however, his father, being obliged to give up his very limited husbandry, removed to Norwich, and thenceforth worked there as a weaver, his son, during his early years, working with him as a factory boy. This fact Mr. Fox recalled when, in the meridian of his fame, he wrote a striking series of letters against the Corn Laws, under the signature of a "Norwich Weaver Boy." His parents belonged to a body of Nonconformists of old standing in Norwich, and the boy having shown signs of superior talents, was sent by the church to Homerton College, then under the presidency of the late Dr. Pye Smith. After leaving college, he entered on the work of the ministry in the usual way, but his theological inquiries and speculations having carried him beyond the doctrinal conclusions of his own body, he speedily left its communion, and eventually took up a position, unconnected with any denomination, as preacher or lecturer at South-place Chapel, Finsbury. Here his eloquence and character gained him a crowd of attentive hearers, including some of the most eminent literary men of the day. While at Finsbury Mr. Fox took an active part in public affairs, writing habitually in the leading political journals, as well as in a magazine that he established himself, and helping forward on the platform, as well as in the press, every Liberal movement of any importance. He joined Sir William Molesworth, Mr. J. S. Mill, and other leading philosophical Liberals in establishing the *Westminster Review*, and is said to have written the first article in the first number. When the Anti-Corn-Law agitation was organised, Mr. Fox's power as a speaker made him a very valuable acquisition to the active staff of the League, and in the course of a few months he appeared on the Free Trade platforms in most of the large towns of England, his nervous and cultivated eloquence contributing, with Mr. Cobden's matchless lucidity, and Mr. Bright's terse and fervid declamation, to carry home conviction even to unwelcome ears, and thus secure the ultimate triumph of the movement. On the dissolution of the League in 1847 he was returned to Parliament as member for Oldham, and, with the exception of a few months, continued to represent the borough until about a year and a half ago, when failing health obliged him to resign his seat. In an obituary notice of Mr. Fox, the *Morning Star* says:—"His last public speech in the metropolis was, we believe, delivered at the Religious Liberation Society's meeting at St. Martin's Hall, in 1857. Few who were present at this demonstration will forget either the orator or his discourse. The once strong frame was weak and bowed, the eye formerly so bright had lost much of its wonted fire, and the once mellifluous voice was husky and broken, but the old power of intellect and of language had

not abated one degree of its force or beauty. Humour and logic were blended with an imagination at once radiant and inspired. In allusion to the exclusion of the Jews from the Legislature, he said:—

It is not by oaths that the House of Commons ought to show its Christianity. As it prides itself on being a Christian House, it should show its Christianity, not by its oaths, but by its votes, not by a theoretical renunciation of King James and his posterity, but by a practical renunciation of the devil and all his works. [We cannot quote his peroration, which was one of the finest even he had ever delivered; but there was one passage following his scathing exposure of ecclesiastical turpitude and injustice which we will again place on record, because it exhibits the perfect catholicity of his mind:—] I would not have it understood by anything I say, either as an individual or on the part of this society, that there is anything like a hostile feeling towards the Church of England as a church. Why, every man who has any sense of religion in him, any man who has any respect for the most beautiful manifestations of religion, must respect a Church which has been adorned by the names of Barrow, with his lucid reasonings; of Jeremy Taylor, with his brilliant and ever-blooming imagery; of Tillotson, with his calm, and dignified, and stately charity; of Horne, with his simple piety; and Butler, with his nervous logic; and must make these from time to time the companions of his best feelings, and feel grateful that such men lived, and taught, and wrote.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

WILLIAMS.—May 29, at Nottingham, the wife of the Rev. Frederick S. Williams, of a daughter.

PUTTICK.—June 3, at Norwood, near Southall, Middlesex, the wife of Mr. John H. Puttick, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

BAKER—GROVE.—May 23, at the Old Meeting, Kidderminster, by the Rev. John Lumb, of Malvern (in the absence of the pastor, the Rev. J. Maraden, B.A.), Arthur W. Baker, to Harriet Grove, both of Cookley, near Kidderminster.

DAVIES—WINTER.—May 24, at the Baptist Chapel, Thames-street, Wallingford, by licence, by the Rev. Thomas Brooks, assisted by the Rev. P. G. Scorey, of Wokingham, cousin of the bridegroom, Mr. W. R. Davies, of Fish-street, Wallingford, to Mary, youngest daughter of Mr. Moses Winter, builder, of the same place.

STACY—BRENNAN.—May 26, at Queen's-road Chapel, Dalston, by the Rev. W. Miall, Benjamin, fourth son of R. S. Stacy, Esq., of Shoreditch and Tottenham, to Elizabeth Ellen, youngest daughter of P. Brennan, Esq., of Boyle, Ireland.

BOWEN—GOODWIN.—May 26, at Bethesda Chapel, Burnley, by the father of the bridegroom, Samuel, son of the Rev. S. Bowen, late of Macclesfield, to Hannah, daughter of Mr. Thomas Goodwin, of Tewkesbury.

ROY—SPRINGATE.—May 28, at the Independent Chapel, Brentwood, Mr. William Roy, of Warley, to Georgiana, second daughter of Mr. William Springate, of Goswell-road, London.

JEFFERSON—CROOK.—May 28, at the Baptist Chapel, Hoghton-street, Southport, by the Rev. A. M. Stalker, Mr. J. Jefferson, to Mary Anne, eldest daughter of the late Rev. J. Crook, of Hebdon Bridge. No cards. Being the first marriage celebrated since the chapel was reopened by the Baptists, the parties were presented with a handsome Bible.

CORNTHWAITE—MCLEOD.—May 28, at Airedale College Chapel, Bradford, by the Rev. W. Kingland, Mr. Thomas Cornthwaite, of Bowling, to Miss Jane McLeod, of Manningham.

SEWELL—RINGER.—May 29, at the Independent Chapel, North Walsham, by the Rev. Charles Goffe, Mr. Samuel Sewell, to Kezia Ringer, both of that town.

EDWARDS—ANDREWS.—May 31, at Princes-street Chapel, Norwich, by the Rev. John Alexander, Josiah, youngest son of the late B. Edwards, city missionary, to Mrs. Andrews, eldest daughter of Mr. S. Warne, of Norwich.

MORECROFT—BICKMORE.—May 31, at Maldon Chapel, by the Rev. J. G. Hughes, Mr. Henry Morecroft, of Great Saling, to Emma, eldest daughter of Mr. Stephen Bickmore, of Heybridge, Maldon.

LEE—ANDREW.—May 31, at the Independent Chapel, Truro, by Mr. W. J. Hocking, Bible Christian minister, Mr. William Box Lee, of Falmouth, to Miss Rosina Andrew, of Truro.

CRAWFORD—STANFORD.—June 1, at the Independent Chapel, East Dereham, by the Rev. R. G. Williams, Ninian Crawford, Esq., Hong Kong, to Miss Stanford, eldest daughter of Mr. W. Stanford, of that town.

HALL—FIRTH.—June 2, at the Congregational Chapel, Union-street, Oldham, by the Rev. William Sanderson, minister of Free Gospel Church, Liverpool, Mr. Wm. Hall, of Greenacres Moor, to Mary Ellen, daughter of Mr. James Firth, of Greenacres-road, Oldham.

STOTT—ST. CLAIR.—June 2, at Woodbine House, Newport, Fifeshire, by the Rev. James Stuart, Free Church, Gifford, the Rev. J. McEwan Stott, M.A., Congregational church, St. Andrew's, to Catherine Harriet Newell, elder daughter of Alexander St. Clair, Esq.

WALKER—LONSDALE.—June 3, at the Poultry Chapel, by the Rev. J. Spence, D.D., Mr. William Walker, third son of Samuel Walker, Esq., Castle-cottage, Northampton, to Jane Lonsdale, eldest daughter of Mr. David Lonsdale, of Aldgate, City. No cards.

JEPSON—WARRINER.—June 4, at Chorlton-road Independent Chapel, Manchester, by the Rev. T. Lawson, of Bacup, Mr. John Jepson, of Halifax, to Miss Warriner, of Embden-street, Hulme, Manchester.

GURJEL—SIMON.—June 4, at Longsight Independent Chapel, by the Rev. W. Smith, Mr. Wm. Gurjel, of Horsens, Denmark, to Mary Catherine, daughter of the Rev. S. Simon, Rushford Park, Levenshulme, Lancashire.

DEATHS.

THOMAS.—March 24, at the London Mission House, Shanghai, Caroline, the beloved wife of the Rev. R. Jermain Thomas, B.A.

STARLING.—May 26, at 52, Oakley-road, Islington, in her twenty-sixth year, Mary Ann, the beloved wife of Mr. James Kearsley Starling, jun., and last surviving child of the late Mr. Thomas Slater, of the Bank of England.

BALCH.—May 26, at her residence, 81, Pentonville-road, aged sixty-eight, Sophia, relict of the late Thomas James Balch, formerly of Lamb's Conduit-street. Friends will please accept this intimation.

WEARE.—May 25, at Richmond-terrace, Barnsbury, deeply lamented by her attached family, Elizabeth, the beloved daughter of Thomas and Mary Weare, formerly of Gothic Hall, Enfield.

CRANBROOK.—May 28, at Liscard, Cheshire, of consumption, in her fifteenth year, Ethelinda Elizabeth, daughter of the Rev. James Cranbrook.

LAWRENCE.—May 31, at the Mansion House, London, Frederick Lawrence, Esq., aged thirty-six, son of the late Alderman Lawrence, and brother of the Lord Mayor.

SMEDMORE.—May 31, at Swanage, Dorset, after a short illness, aged fifty-six, the Rev. James Smedmore, the beloved pastor of the Baptist church, Forton, near Gosport.

PILKINGTON.—June 1, in London, aged sixty-five, Elizabeth, daughter of the late James Pilkington, Esq., of Blackburn.

FOX.—June 3, at his residence, 3, Sussex-place, Regent's-park, William Johnson Fox, late M.P. for Oldham, aged seventy-eight.

CROSSLEY.—June 4, aged fifty-seven, John Crossley, Esq., of Scaitcliffe, Lancashire, M.A., barrister-at-law, a magistrate and deputy-lieutenant for the county palatine of Lancaster, and also for the West Riding of Yorkshire.

GOWARD.—June 5, Hollis Goward, the infant son of T. G. Goward, jun.

SANDERSON.—June 6, at Montagu-grove, Hampstead, aged sixty-seven, Elizabeth, wife of Richard Burdon Sanderson, Esq., of West Jesmond, Northumberland, and only daughter of the late Sir James Sanderson, Bart.

Advertisements.

LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT COLLEGE.—A SHORROCK FELLOWSHIP (value £32 per annum, and tenable for three years) in connection with this College, will be OPEN for COMPETITION to STUDENTS entering the Theological Course in the Session commencing SEPTEMBER, 1864; also the RAFFLES and the HADFIELD SCHOLARSHIPS, for STUDENTS commencing the Literary Course in the same Session.

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